

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LIX.]

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DEATH.

On the 10th June, at No. 4, Woosung Road, Shanghai, ALICE, eldest daughter of JOHN and JOHANNA EITZER, aged 21 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVAL OF MAIL.

The English Mail of the 20th ult., arrived per the s.s. *Bengal*, on 16th inst.; and the French Mail arrived, per the s.s. *Yarra*, on Friday the 17th inst.

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Telegrams relating to the war will be found on p. 452.

The French Colonial Congress has adopted M. Deloncle's motion in favour of an international agreement for the establishment of a monetary system in China.

We are glad to learn that the work of removing the barriers in the Canton river is to be commenced forthwith under the superintendence of the Imperial Maritime Customs.

Neither the prevalence of plague in Honam nor the hot weather seems to deter tourists from visiting Canton, the stream of sightseers to that city having been pretty regular of late.

The Banque de l'Indo-Chine announces a dividend for 1903 of £37.50 per share, which compares with £32.50 for 1902, notwithstanding the necessary expenses of founding several more agencies.

The French trade journals publish a letter from the Indo-China Committee of Commerce and Industry calling for tenders from French manufacturers for the construction of a floating dock at Saigon.

"Except in shipping and banking, commerce, with a big C., has passed out of the British merchant's hands," says the Acting Consul at Hankow, "and nothing seems left to him but trade, with a small 't'."

The Messageries Maritimes will declare a dividend of £10 per share for 1903. The report mentions that the company continues to augment its fleet, and has recently acquired four cargo boats of the East Asiatic Company.

A telegram from Seoul to the Japanese papers states that the Americans are paying a good deal of attention to Manchuria. Spending much money, they use the Chinese to prepare for the importation of machinery and for securing mining privileges.

The Norddeutscher Lloyd have re-opened their Singapore-Manila line with the s.s. *Manila*, a new vessel built at Bremerhaven. It is said that in a few months the *Luzon*, a sister ship to the *Manila*, now building, will also be placed on the run, thus establishing a regular fortnightly service.

The directors of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company announce a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum on the Preference Stock and an interim dividend at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum on the Deferred Stock of the company for the half-year ended 31st March.

From Copenhagen it is reported that the large steamship company Vereinigte Dampfschiffahrts-gesellschaft (United Steamship Co.) is to be amalgamated with the Ostasiatische Gesellschaft (East Asiatic Company), whose director, Mr. Andersen, is to take over the management of both companies.

The N.Y.K. steamers *Satsuma-maru* and *Hokkai-maru* have been released from Government charter. The former is to become a Formosan liner, while the latter will be placed in the Hokkaido service. Amongst the foreign steamers in the service of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha there are several vessels whose charter-parties expire this month. The British steamer *Ganges* was released from charter on the 4th inst., while the Norwegian steamer *Tungus* is to be released on Tuesday next. The Japanese Steamship Company is also about to discharge the British steamer *Dumblane* and three other vessels.

The usual annual meeting of shareholders of the Chinese Coasting Company (Chinesische Küstenfahrt Gesellschaft) of Messrs. Menzell and Co. has been held. The report for 1903 and the balance sheet were passed unanimously. The newly-issued shares (500) are to be quoted in future in Berlin and Hamburg. Having been asked as to the present prospects of the company Herr Menzell, the managing director, stated that the six steamers of the company are doing good business especially as they have given a remarkable profit in spite of the unfavourable situation during the past year. In the event of no unfavourable circumstances setting in a good result might be expected for 1904, as all steamers were under favourable charter.

The Empress Dowager is announced to have discovered defalcations amounting to seven millions sterling in connection with the Siberian Railway. This use of the term "Siberian railway" evidently includes the Manchurian line.

A Changsha (capital of Hunan province) dispatch states that H.E. Chao Erh-sen, the retiring Governor of that province, has purchased through a foreign firm in Shanghai a plant for a large mint said to be capable of striking two million copper ten-cash pieces every twenty-four hours; the price of the machinery, etc., being something like £30,000. In connection with the mint the weiyuan, or official representing the Governor of Hunan, who has been conducting the above negotiations, is said to have purchased in Shanghai a large quantity of copper sufficient to last the mint one year, while working in the ordinary way. The mint is expected to be in working order by next October.

It has been officially announced in Brussels that, in consequence of the differences between the Congo Free State and the Congo Railway Company, Colonel Thys and M. Devolder, ex-Minister, who are directors of the Congo Railway Company, have sent in their resignations as directors of the Hankow-Canton Railway, an enterprise mainly due to the initiative of King Leopold. Reuter's agent at Brussels, however, says the version which several newspapers give under reserve of the resignation of Colonel Thys and M. Devolder as directors of the Hankow-Canton Railway, is as follows:—The exploitation of this concession was to be shared by Americans, to whom Colonel Thys and M. Devolder were sent by the King of the Belgians some months ago with instructions to treat on certain conditions. When these gentlemen, on their return, announced to the King that they had concluded the negotiations in accordance with the instructions they had received, his Majesty informed them that he had changed his mind, and this was the reason why they resigned.

In the United States Consular Court at Canton on the 14th inst., William A. Freeman was convicted of unpremeditated killing. He was sentenced to deportation and censured for reckless firing. The affair occurred at Fatshan, a Chinese lad losing his life. An American, named Aldrich, was the proprietor of a restaurant at Fatshan, and a Portuguese woman who spoke Chinese fluently, lived with him. Several Chinese were gazing into the house, as is their custom, when the woman reprimanded them. After some words she threw water on them, and the Chinese proceeded to bombard the house with mud, sticks and stones. Just about this time William A. Freeman and two other railway employees arrived for dinner. Clods of mud were thrown at the windows, and finally, a stone was hurled through the glass, landing on the table at which Freeman and his two friends were seated. Freeman jumped to his feet, rushed to the window and drew his revolver. He did not aim at the retreating Chinese, but fired in the pond. The bullet from the revolver struck the water in the pond, glanced off and pierced a lad in the throat killing him almost instantaneously. The boy was 400 yards from the house. The father of the lad agreed to accept \$450 in full settlement of the matter. Viceroy Tsen, however, made a case against Freeman.

BRITISH COMMERCIAL METHODS.

(Daily Press, 15th June.)

In the Reviews, if not on the public platforms of England, ample evidence is afforded that there is no abatement of public interest in the discussions on the Fiscal problems of the Empire initiated by Mr. CHAMBERLAIN. Meanwhile the Tariff Commission is quietly proceeding with its most important task of obtaining a full and accurate presentation of the facts by expert evidence such as will enable them to show clearly (1) whether in fact any given industry is declining or progressing; (2) what are the causes of the decline where such a decline has taken place; (3) to what extent the fiscal policy of England and of other countries has been a factor in bringing about that state of affairs; and (4) to indicate whether it is likely that these conditions can be altered by a change of policy on the part of Great Britain. Any detailed recommendations which the Commission may hereafter make must, as its Secretary says, be determined not only with reference to conditions of one particular trade but of the other trades with which it is inseparably connected. Only after a careful analysis of existing conditions can the question of a complete change of policy be profitably discussed.

Nevertheless the public discussion of the state of British trade and commerce has brought into prominence many suggestions, apart from a change of Fiscal Policy, which might usefully be adopted forthwith to the advantage of the manufacturer and the merchant, and though these have often been put forward before, they are likely now, thanks to the public interest created by Mr. CHAMBERLAIN'S campaign, to receive far more attention than has been their fate hitherto. Within the last few days, for instance, we have had from our London correspondent the news that a Departmental Committee has recommended the re-organisation of the Board of Trade and the appointment of a Minister of Commerce. This has for years been advised by many of the Chambers of Commerce, and if we recollect rightly, by the whole of the Chambers in annual congress, but now that a Departmental Committee has recognised the value of the suggestion there is more likelihood of the change being made. In most Continental Governments there is a Minister of Commerce. The function of such a Minister is too obvious to need explanation, and what has been accomplished by such Ministers in Continental Governments may be taken as a sufficient recommendation for the change. Of equal, if not of greater importance than a Minister of Commerce, is the need of a well-selected staff of Consuls. But above both these recommendations the journals devoted to commerce place the need for more commercial representatives. "Sending representatives to the spot is the German and American way of doing business," says the *Magazine of Commerce*, "and our traders cannot hope to retain their trade unless they do likewise. In Portugal our travellers are becoming practically extinct. Two hundred commercials from Germany visited Lisbon during a recent year, compared with 30 from the United Kingdom, while for years past not a single representative of British firms has been seen in Madeira, whereas several Germans go there every year, and pass on to the Canary Islands. Egypt is a growing country, under our control, but the number of British commercial travellers to be found there is quite inadequate."

In fairness to the Consular service it has to be admitted that British Consuls all the world over are constantly giving advice of this description. It has appeared in the Consular reports on trade in China again and again. In the first report to hand relating to trade in China during 1903—that of the Acting Consul at Hankow—we find advice of this description given in the plainest of terms. "The blame for the lack of success of British firms, though commonly ascribed to the supineness of British Consular officials towards the efforts of British merchants, would seem," says Mr. PLAYFAIR, "to lie in reality with the firms themselves who make no serious effort to push their goods in opposition to those of other countries The only effectual method is to send accredited agents with full particulars to officials in charge of factories in order to expound the advantages of British-made machinery, or to native merchants in order to point out the superiority of the article which they are trying to sell, and to secure orders therefor." We do not know that it can be charged against British Consular officials generally that they possess no inherent sympathy with commercial matters, though it is doubtless a fact that very few of them have had a practical commercial experience. That, it must be admitted, is a defect in the Consular system, but we should hesitate to endorse the view that the Consular officials of other Powers are, generally speaking, more efficient in that respect. A Ministry of Commerce with an efficient Consular staff co-operating would certainly have it in its power to render valuable aid to the merchant and manufacturer, but in the long run the place which the British trader occupies in the race must depend mainly upon his own exertions.

THE EXPEDITION IN TIBET.

(Daily Press, 16th June.)

The opposition to Colonel YOUNGHUS-BAND'S expedition in Tibet is proving much more serious than was expected. By this time the Dalai Lama and his followers must have gathered that any opposition they can oppose to the advance of the British Commissioner will assuredly be vain in the long run and will only end in the terms proposed to them, if dictated in Lhasa, being much more onerous than if they had met the Mission in a friendly spirit. The reinforcements have, REUTER tells, nearly all arrived at Chumbi, and there can be little doubt that the forward march will soon recommence, and that its destination will now be nothing short of the mysterious city of Lhasa. The Lamas will have brought this entirely upon themselves; they can ask, and they are entitled to, no more moderate terms. They have persisted in their policy of exclusion, and they will have to accept the conditions dictated by the victors. That these will be reasonable will be the good fortune of the Tibetans rather than their deserts. No one except perhaps their Muscovite patrons, who doubtless supplied the lethal weapons with which they have defied us, will feel any kind of sympathy with them. The Lamas had every chance of coming to a favourable agreement with the British Commissioner. He was prepared to be liberal, and would no doubt have been perfectly willing, had they shown a pacific disposition, to settle the score on a very moderate basis. The British Indian Government had no desire to press for the opening of the jealously-guarded sacred capital of Buddhism; they would have been content with much less than that if they

had been treated with the consideration due to the greatest Empire of Asia. The despatch of the Mission had been necessitated alike by Tibetan insolence and Muscovite intrigue, and Lord CURZON acted with the patience, dignity, and moderation which should—and happily does—characterise the representative of the Emperor of India.

Of the ultimate success of this Mission no one need entertain the least doubt, but there is some little speculation as to the course that will be adopted when the Indian Representative reaches Lhasa. In an interesting article contributed to the *Contemporary Review*, Mr. ALEXANDER ULAR indicates what, in his opinion, is the right policy for the Viceroy to adopt. The Lhasa oligarchy which uphold the Dalai Lama and try to rule the Buddhist world in his name, are in a state of isolation. They are independent of China; they cannot rely upon or expect effective assistance from Russia; and they are the open foes of British India. He predicts that they will oppose the British advance with their utmost energy, a prophecy which is being fulfilled. Mr. ULAR adds that the Dalai Lama's party could not do otherwise, because even if they accepted a British protectorate, and if Great Britain conceded to the Lamas a new monopoly of the tea trade, the three principal Lamaseries that govern Tibet—Depong, Sera, and Galdan—would be ruined, the tea supply taking the route from India and no longer from Szechuen. It will therefore be necessary, he goes on to say, "when the comedy of new negotiations with a Chinese amban at Gyantse shall have come to an end, to proceed immediately to Lhasa. But it would be a fault to establish by force an Indian suzerainty over the oligarchy there. This would excite the Buddhists throughout Asia against England, and not only put obstacles in the way of commercial development of those countries, but also cause, at certain moments, immense prejudice to English politics in the Far East. While Russia will be obliged to maintain her standard of power with the Northern Buddhists by more military force, England may now, by favouring a religious revolution in Tibet, associate the interests of Buddhism with her own." How to effect this revolution Mr. ULAR points out very clearly. It is only necessary to upset the Lama oligarchy, which has really usurped the government, and to have the Dalai Lama deposed from his nominal political power and priesthood in favour of his spiritual superior, PANCHEN ETERNI-RIMPOCHE, known in Europe as the Tashe Lama.

The *modus operandi* of this projected revolution is very clearly pointed out by the review writer. He says that it can easily be accomplished. The Depong-Sera-Galdan aristocracy is watched with jealous eagerness by rival monasteries, and the fact that all over the Buddhist world prayers are ordered, not to the "Dalai Lama," but to the "Panchen-Dalai-Lama" is adduced as a proof that the Dalai Lama's prestige, even in political matters, is shared, if not superseded, by that of the Panchen Lama. As for the spiritual authority, the Panchen Lama's supremacy is, Mr. ULAR declares, well known. He is an incarnation of AMITHABA, and the Dalai Lama only the incarnation of ARALOKITA, who is a mere emanation of AMITHABA. As a matter of fact Panchen Lama is regarded as "too holy to deal with human matters, except where the Church itself is in danger." The reviewer goes on to remark:—"The whole of the Buddhist world, except the Lhasa Council of Five that for more than two centuries have

"governed the land and directed the Church under the cover of the unfortunate Dalai Lama boy, would accept the sudden political intervention of Panchen Rimpoche, at a moment when the Church is in danger. By an encyclical letter he may depose the Dalai Lama and crush the moral authority of the Lhasa monasteries, which by the presence or the possible arrival of Indian troops would be prevented from taking up an open struggle. He may then take upon himself the political administration of the country, stating in a bull that the Lhasa oligarchy have, up to now, by innumerable crimes, prevented the Dalai Lama from directing the affairs of the Church, and that, in the present difficulties, a reorganisation of the ecclesiastical administration is unavoidable." In this way an Anglophile Buddhist Pope might, Mr. ULAR thinks, be set up without much difficulty. There is little doubt that PANCHEN RIMPOCHE would accept the position, especially if offered in addition a monopoly of the tea trade from India and a participation in exploiting the gold mines. This scheme appears on the face of it to be practicable, and to possess the merit of averting the trouble of annexation or the erection of a formal protectorate. No doubt, however, Lord CURZON is well informed as to the position, and will not fail to turn it to the best account when the right moment arrives.

REPORTING THE WAR.

(Daily Press, 17th June.)

By all usage to which our grandsires were accustomed, the Press had no part in war save that of recording its incidents and results. As now, they could voice public opinion and clamour for it; but once the glove was down, they were, the gentlemen of the Press, to bow to the gentlemen of the sword and culverin, saying meekly: "Après vous." It was our American cousins who, as though tired of the mute, inglorious inactivity incumbent upon them, first set the fashion of "every dog helping to kill the fox." In the modern war play, the Press is neither hero nor villain, first walking gentleman nor principal comedian, yet it had at first a speaking part which enabled it to hold the stage and almost, in one sense at least, to "queer the business" of the principals. The small armies of correspondents at various supposed headquarters are more heard of, for obvious reasons, than the forces in the field. The "Thunderer's" *Haiman*, with its DE FOREST apparatus and roving commission, sounds with as many salvos as the combined fleets—at this time. Telegrams tell of permit applications as often as of punitive expeditions, courts-martial on correspondents as well as prize courts. International laws are cited in the interests of threatened journalists. No news is the good news that sets waiting scribes in editorial sanctums to the task of Israel in bondage. The daily tale must be prepared, and with no straw withal. Well may the Hague idealists sorrow inwardly, as they note the undeniable fact that the popular outlook on war is that of the Roman circus. The public, not finding its matutinal instalment of spectacular slaughter, blames its caterer, finds the Press amiss. There is, it thinks, too much in the Press about the Press. Paraphrasing, with as little irreverence as possible, the Scripture, they "would see Janus, but could not for the press." And yet it is not (all) the fault of the note-taking "chiel." His plight is to be explained as the Chinese philosophers explain the sorry state of the Chinese Job. He suffers for the misdeeds

of his forerunners. The indiscretions, as we may now call them, of news-getters in the Transvaal have awakened the present devotees of Mars to the risks attending too many cooks over the broth-pot. As *Punch* wittily indicated recently, they have adorned the adventurous representatives of the Fourth Estate with an honourable badge, to be worn gagwise. Thus the first war of the twentieth century has shown us the profession of the war correspondent gone limbo-wards, after that of the engraver of wood-cuts. It is to be remarked thereon that the ills they did have not died with them. The public has still to wait agog for the first intelligences, and it has still to discriminate, as we must admit was aforesaid time needful, between the halfpenny coloured and the penny plain. A tolerant Austrian Consul, in one of the Chinese treaty ports, recently face to face with much "hard-swearing," remarked that the conflicting testimonies of the witnesses for and against did not necessarily imply wilful perjury. It was, he said, due to the excitement necessarily attendant upon an affray between a policeman and a civilian. In valiant emulation of which amiable view, may we not, now that we seem to depend for our war news upon the interested parties, assume that some tergiversatory tellings may be the natural outcome of an excited observation, by narrators who are animated by more—much more—than the journalistic desire to be first in the witness box with a more or less convincing bit of evidence? In any case, whatever harsh things we are tempted to think of the *suggestio falsi*, we are bound to remember that there are often reasons of State for the *suppressio veri*.

HONGKONG JOTTINGS.

(Daily Press, 13th June.)

We are getting treated rather badly by Jupiter Pluvius this year. While he appears to have been making prolonged visits at other points along the coast his visits here are unusually few and far between for the time of the year. The rainfall for the month of May, according to the observations of the Hongkong Observatory, was 7.705 inches. Last year it was 13.960 inches, and in 1902, 36.730 inches. In June last year the rainfall amounted to 25.230 inches. The prospect is not pleasant.

The members of the Kowloon Bowling Club were rather concerned on the point whether or no the King's Park was going to interfere with their beautiful greens which have been laid out and kept up at considerable expense to them. A satisfactory arrangement has now been come to whereby the greens will be incorporated in the Park but not interfered with in any way. Probably the present bamboo hedge will be replaced by an ornamental railing. It is suggested that there may even be a public bowling green in the Park such as we find in most of our city parks at home.

The Chinese have a peculiar custom with regard to turtles which they regard as very good joss. Almost any day one can see these creatures, some of them of huge size, being carried on board the river steamers, not to be taken to Canton for culinary purposes, but to be dumped into the sea and restored to liberty and freedom. Turtles are a favourite present for the Canton man to make to his friend in Hongkong. But they must not be eaten. Instead of that, the recipient has to go to considerable expense in sending them back to their natural element. Good luck is thereby considered to rest upon both the giver and the receiver.

We do not often hear sea serpent stories in Hongkong, but of late there have been repeated accounts about the presence of sharks in the Harbour. A stray shark such as that which

scared a bathing party at Stonecutters last summer is not so very alarming to think about, but the skipper of a steamer which was lying out in the stream a few days ago tells me that he saw no less than seven of these fearsome fish sporting about his bows. A few of these monsters might well disquieten a V.R.C. polo match.

The arrival in port of the leviathan steamer *Mongolia* induces reflections on the change which has come over the character of the shipping entering the port in recent years. The times change and ships change with them. In the coasting trade as well as on the foreign lines we have in the last few years seen great improvements and the shipping in the Far East compares now not unfavourably with that of the Atlantic.

The "fire season" seems to be over. The alarm bell has not summoned the Fire Brigade for a whole week or more, and the insurance companies must be experiencing a joyful sense of relief. By the fires this season I understand the insurance companies have suffered a total loss of about half a million dollars in the Colony.

The number of armed robberies in the New Territory has been rather remarkable of late. Yesterday two more were reported, one at Chengshawan and the other in the Saikong district. It certainly is not the fault of the police that such offences are so frequent. The difficulty lies in the facts that the regions to be patrolled by the police are of such an extensive area and that when a patrol does leave one of the outlying stations bound on a raid upon the robbers their departure is made known to the gang before they have even got under way. Only an increase of the force in the New Territory will meet the requirements of the case, and at present, curiously enough, the policy of the Government is to decrease rather than increase the police strength in the hinterland.

Building operations are still to be seen on every hand on the island as well as at Kowloon. Having regard to the increasing value of land and the consequent high rentals which oblige people to sub-let portions of their houses, I have been asked why it is that the flat system is not introduced at Kowloon, for example, instead of running up rows of four-roomed houses. I imagine "flats" in the Tropics would never answer until that millenium is reached which is pictured by William Morris in one of his books when the entire population of a congerie of flats has become reconciled to the idea of a common dining room. Cooking cannot be done here, in the hot season at any rate, by the white woman, and moreover flats with cooking and servants' quarters to each would not, I suspect, work out cheaper than the self-contained four-roomed house.

The "honeymoon trip" which was assigned as the reason for the somewhat sudden disappearance from the Colony of the freely advertised Mr. Warwick Peele has considerably exceeded the ten days it was estimated by him to take. Many with whom he had business relations are dejectedly asking "Will he no' come back again?" Doubtless he is improving the occasion by practising somewhere the "Up-to-Date" system of making money; but if only he would settle up the little accounts he forgot to pay in his hurry to start on the trip, I am sure I shall be interpreting the feelings of those who have been left lamenting when I say they would instantly come quite reconciled to his absence from the Colony.

BANYAN.

A smart steam launch built by Messrs. Geo. Fenwick & Co., Ltd., for the British Admiralty, left Hongkong for Weihaiwei on the evening of the 4th inst., under the command of Capt. Ellis, and arrived at her destination early on the 14th, having made the passage in 9½ days. As this includes calling in at Ningpo for coals the result must be considered very creditable, both to the builders and the navigator of the little craft.

THE WAR.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.]

FIGHTING IN LIAOTUNG PENINSULA.

HEAVY RUSSIAN LOSSES.

LONDON, 14th June, 10.55 a.m.

It is reported at St. Petersburg that a battle was fought outside Port Arthur last Friday.

The result is unknown.

General Stoessel, who is in command of the beleaguered garrison at Port Arthur, has had to have his leg amputated.

LONDON, 15th June, 10.35 a.m.

Admiral Stackelberg, senior Flag Admiral at Port Arthur, wires that a battle has been fought at Wafangkan. The Russians suffered severe losses, Colonel Khuastounoff being amongst the killed, and General Gergross among the wounded.

KOBE, 15th June, 4.46 p.m.

News has been received here of a desperate battle on Saturday at Fuchan, situated north-west of Port Adams.

The Russian casualties are reported as being over 1,000.

All their guns were left on the field.

[Wafangkan and Fuchan are only about twenty miles apart, and the two telegrams probably refer to the same action.—ED.]

[JAPANESE OFFICIAL DESPATCH.]

TOKYO, 16th June, 5.25 p.m.

A report from the commander of our army in Liaotung states that on the 14th the main body advanced northward in two columns along the railway, expelling the enemy from the east of Wafangtien. At 5 p.m. the enemy made a stand on a line from Lungwangmiao to Tafaugshen and after a two hours' cannonade we occupied at nightfall a line from Pangchiaton to Yohoton.

Another column for menacing the enemy's right and covering our flank and rear marched east of Fuchau and advanced upon the line from Tengchiakow to Nachialinz.

The enemy near Lunwangmiao increased their strength.

On the 15th inst. the enemy near Telissu consisted of two and a half divisions occupying a position from Tafaugshen to Chengtsushan.

At dawn we opened the attack with the main body, and advanced along the railway one column from Tsouchiaton.

At 9 a.m. a column of the left wing joined from Tungfunkow and at noon cavalry from Chichiaaton.

Thus the enemy were surrounded near Telissu, and after severe fighting were routed northward at 3 p.m.

Our losses are estimated to be under 1,000.

So far as is known, we captured the colours, 14 quickfiring and about 300 of the enemy, including the commander of the Fourth Regiment of infantry and sharpshooters.

Over 500 killed and wounded of the enemy were left on the field.

Our scouts saw the enemy march with a Japanese flag in this engagement, where upon our artillery were misled and suspended fire.

NAVAL OPERATIONS.

THE RUSSIAN VLADIVOSTOCK SQUADRON ACTIVE.

LONDON, 13th June, 10.35 a.m.

It is reported that Admiral Skrydloff has engaged the Japanese fleet thirty miles from Port Arthur but has returned with his squadron damaged to Vladivostock, having failed to effect a junction with the Russian fleet at Port Arthur.

KOBE, June 15th, 4.5 p.m.

A number of ships, believed to be the Russian Vladivostock squadron, have been sighted off Colnet Island.

Sounds of cannonading are reported north-east of Tsushima Strait.

[Colnet Island lies in the Corea Strait (often called Tsushima Strait), nearly midway between the east coast of Tsushima and the western entrance of the Inland Sea. The island is about a mile wide at its broadest part. It is curious that no Japanese official account has come to hand of the action with the Vladivostock squadron within thirty miles of Port Arthur. It may be surmised from the above telegram that on the way back to the northern harbour the Russian ships have been met by Admiral Kamimura, whose squadron from the commencement of the war appears to have been detailed for the special duty of dealing with the Vladivostock squadron when it should emerge from its winter quarters. Admiral Skrydloff appears, however, to have eluded the vigilance of the Japanese squadron to have got so far south.—ED.]

[REUTER'S SERVICE.]

LONDON, 13th June.

The *Standard's* St. Petersburg correspondent wires that Admiral Skrydloff telegraphs that the Vladivostock squadron encountered a Japanese squadron thirty miles from Port Arthur on the 7th instant, but as none of the Port Arthur ships appeared in support the squadron retired and returned to Vladivostock.

[JAPANESE OFFICIAL DESPATCHES.]

TOKYO, 14th June, 5.50 p.m.

Admiral Togo reports that while the *Taihoku Maru* was laying mines in the face of the enemy, on the night of the 13th inst., one mine was exploded killing one officer and 19 men. It also wounded two officers and seven men, but the damage to the ship was not important.

TOKYO, June, 15th 6.50 p.m.

Admiral Togo reports that our torpedo-boat flotillas proceeded for Port Arthur on the night of the 13th inst., and succeeded in laying mines at certain points and returned safely.

When our second destroyer flotilla and three torpedo-boat flotillas were bombarding the enemy ashore near Shaopingtao for facilitating the reconnaissance of our army on the 14th instant at noon, the *Novik* with ten destroyers rushed out from Port Arthur.

Sharp firing was exchanged and our flotillas tried to entice the enemy by

gradually retiring, but at 3 p.m. the enemy withdrew. No damage was done on our side.

The *Chitose* heard an explosion and the sound of guns at 4 p.m. on the same day in the direction of Port Arthur.

[REUTER'S SERVICE.]

CONTRABAND OF WAR.

LONDON, 11th June.

Great Britain has protested against the Russian declaration that rice and foodstuffs are contraband of war.

GENERAL KUROKI'S ADVANCE.

LONDON, 13th June.

Critics consider that the advance of General Kuroki's forces on a broad front towards Liaoyung and Mukden is accurately timed to correspond with the near approach of General Oku's assault on Port Arthur.

REPORTED SALE OF A SUBMARINE TO JAPAN.

LONDON, 14th June.

The *Telegraph's* New York correspondent states that the submarine *Protector* has been privately sold to Japan, and is now proceeding thither on board a Norwegian ship with two American instructors.

RUSSIAN RESERVES CALLED OUT.

LONDON, 14th June.

An Imperial Ukase calls out the reserves of 61 districts of various Russian Provinces.

[FROM CHINESE SOURCES.]

MOUNTED BANDITS.

CHINCHOU, 6th June.

A body of mounted bandits, armed with modern rifles and styling themselves the East Asiatic Volunteer Cavalry Company, are in the district of Hainmienfu, ostensibly to annoy the Russians.

RUSSIAN CRUELTY TO THE CHINESE.

CHEFOO, 6th June.

A native who managed to escape to this Port from Port Arthur by way of Chinniwa (Dalny) states that the Russians are anxious to prevent the public from gaining a knowledge of the condition of the harbour at Port Arthur, therefore they are using every effort in forbidding the Chinese to leave the place. As many as sixty natives have been killed by the Russians for attempting to escape. Our informant was one of a party of four that left Port Arthur together, but three were captured and probably put to death by the Russians, while he is the only one that managed to arrive at Chefoo.

RUSSIAN SOLDIERS DISCONTENTED.

CHEFOO, 6th June.

The Russian soldiers of the Port Arthur garrison do not receive any pay and a reduction in their daily rations has also been made lately. Even the officers are not supplied with satisfactory food. The men are consequently very discontented and indignant with their Government. The desire among them to kill their officers and surrender themselves to the Japanese is getting stronger daily.

RUSSIAN OUTRAGES.

TOKYO, 7th June.

Reliable news has been received here that the Russian troops, after having been repulsed by Korean troops at Yuansan (Corea), destroyed by fire fifty native houses on the highlands and outraged the community in other ways. The natives rose in a body and killed the interpreter in Russian service, then the Russian troops proceeded towards Pingando.

LATEST FROM DALNY.

CHEFOO, 8th June.

A reliable report dated the 2nd has been received here from Dalny stating that the important bridges on the railway line between Chinniwa and Kinchow have all been destroyed

or damaged. To restore them to their normal condition will require much time and expenditure. As soon as the Japanese entered Chinnawa, they immediately devoted their efforts to putting out the fire then raging in the place, and consequently only the Municipal buildings, school and Customs House near the Railway Station were destroyed, the residential parts being all intact. Most of the locomotives and goods trains in the railway station yard are still smouldering, but there are still more than seventy locomotives and cars in good condition. The other buildings that have not been damaged by fire are the Telegraph Office, Post Office, Electric Light stations (2), the Harbour Master's Department and the buildings connected with the Municipal Department. The principal building of this Department has however been entirely destroyed, leaving a few iron posts. The Dalny Hotel, the Public Garden, the Club and the new railway offices are all intact. The object of the Russians in setting fire to the place when they were about to leave it was to demolish all the Government offices, but they managed to destroy only a small portion of them.

Previous to the departure of the Russians, they placed one explosive magazine in the Central Electric Light station and several about the wharves, but these have all been since discovered and removed by the Japanese engineering corps. The Japanese squadron will soon clear the adjacent waters of submarine torpedoes placed there by the Russians. The piers and wharves of Chinnawa have been destroyed. There is a scarcity of drinking water in the place. The most valuable booty captured by the Japanese are the brick yard and the ironworks with all their contents, which are innumerable. On the night of the 26th ultimo thirteen hundred Russian soldiers fled from Chinnawa to Port Arthur either by train or native boats. The next morning the brigands made their appearance and made their presence felt in the place. The lower class of the natives joined them in large numbers to plunder and pilfer. It was two days after the arrival of the Japanese before the place assumed order again.

"WHEN MANCHURIA HAS BEEN HANDLED BACK."

A Peking dispatch, the *N.-C. Daily News* reports, states that the Empress Dowager has given her assent to a proposal presented by H.E. Viceroy Chang Chih-tung to the effect that, when Manchuria has been handed back to China by Japan, the whole of the three provinces comprising Manchuria shall be thrown open to the commerce of the world, without let or hindrance. Further, that instead of being governed as heretofore by Tartar Generals and Deputy Military Governors, the three provinces of Fengtien, Kirin, and Henunghiang shall have each a Governor, similar to the eighteen provinces of China Proper, with a Viceroy over the three, like the Liang-Kiang, or Shên-Kan (the last named consisting of Shên-si, Kansu, and Chinese Turkestan) Viceroyalties. In view of this it has been recommended by the Waiwupu that some high official possessing the required rank, and above all having plenty of tact, with some knowledge of international amenities, should be selected beforehand and be ready to take over the task of reorganising the Manchurian provinces the moment they are handed back to China. We now learn that the progressive Chao Erh-sen, the retiring Governor of Hunan is to be the new Viceroy, and he is being called up to Peking to arrange the necessary machinery of Government, so as to be ready to start the new order of things when the time arrives.

The effects of the hurricane of 1st May at Saigon continue to be felt by the rice market. Messrs. W. G. Hale & Co. in their latest circular say:—"Arrivals of paddy from the interior hardly cover mills' present requirements and are held by dealers at exorbitant prices. The quality of paddy coming to market is indeed a poor one, and shows any amount of yellow grains. The appearance of these yellow grains will likely go on increasing as the season will advance, stocks in the interior having been, all more or less flooded and soaked. Prices continue to keep high and firm."

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held in the Board Room on the 16th inst. Dr. J. M. Atkinson presided, and there were also present Hon. P. N. Jones (Vice-President), Hon. A. W. Brewin, Registrar-General; Colonel W. E. Webb, R.A.M.C.; Mr. A. Rumjahn; Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C.; Mr. E. A. Hewett; Dr. W. W. Pearse, Medical Officer of Health; and Mr. T. A. Hanmer (Acting Secretary). The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed.

APPLICATIONS FOR EXEMPTION.

Further correspondence was discussed re an application, regarding open space area, for a modification of the requirements of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance in respect of No. 83, Temple Street, Yaumati. Exemption was recommended.

Further correspondence was also discussed re an application for exemption from the provision of open spaces in respect of Nos. 149, Market Street, and 137, Bulkeley Street, Hunghom. This was granted conditionally.

An application for exemption from the provision of open spaces in respect of Nos. 1 and 33, Reclamation Street, Mongkokokui, was considered. This was granted.

Another application for exemption from the provision of open spaces was in respect of certain houses in Bulkeley Street and Market Street, Hunghom. The application was granted conditionally.

A similar application, in respect of Nos. 25 and 43, Station Street North, Yaumati, was also made. The applicant showed that they were corner houses provided with a lane in the rear. The floors were well ventilated. Exemption was recommended.

On the same grounds as in the former case an application was made in respect of No. 45, Station Street North, Yaumati. Exemption was recommended.

Another similar application came from No. 65, Station Street North, Yaumati. Exemption was recommended.

An application for exemption in respect of No. 83, Station Street North, Yaumati, was made on the grounds that the building was a corner house, having an abundance of windows, doors, etc. Exemption was recommended.

A further application for a modification of the requirements in respect of external air at No. 15B, Wellington Street, came before the Board. The previous application was refused, but at that time the Board pointed out to the applicant that by opening skylights the cubicles in question might be converted into legal rooms. This was granted conditionally.

An application for exemption from complying with verandah and balcony regulations in respect of two houses on Section 2 of Reclamation Marine Lot No. 63, came before the board. This was also granted.

IRON BARS.

There was an application for permission to erect iron bars over the backyard of No. 49, Staunton Street. The applicant wrote that he considered the iron bars necessary to avoid theft, as at the house in question a pawnbroking business was carried on. The applicant promised that if his application was granted he would always keep the place free of coverings or anything else that would obstruct ventilation.

The PRESIDENT said there were 50 square feet of clear space. It could be seen that he put nothing over the bars.

Mr. HEWETT opined that they might or might not be able to do so. In Kowloon two days ago there was one house of this description where they pulled a mat over the bars as protection from rain. That sort of thing would go on always.

Colonel WEBB asked if they had not refused a similar application some time ago.

The PRESIDENT did not remember. He thought the application might be granted if they gave the Inspectors orders to see that no cover was used. It was a pawn-shop containing valuables. He moved that the application be granted.

Mr. RUMJAHN seconded and it was carried.
THE WANCHAI BATHS.

Correspondence showing the number of admissions to Wanchai Bath-Houses during May was laid on the table. The daily number of Chinese who visited the place varied from 856 to 1,540, the total number of admissions for the month being 37,616.

Mr. Hewett minuted:—This return clearly shows the use to which the bath-houses will be put. The Government should provide bath-houses for men and women in all districts.

Hon. H. E. Pollock minuted:—How is the construction of the other public bath-houses getting on?

Mr. Lau Chu Pak minuted:—A bath-house should be provided in each district for the poor.

Hon. D. P. W. minuted:—There is another bath-house in Pound Lane completed this year. There is no other contemplated, or at any rate there is no money in the estimates for any more.

Mr. HEWETT said that the correspondence clearly showed that if other baths were provided they would be used. They ought to get bath-houses at the earliest possible date, there being only two or three at the present moment.

Mr. POLLOCK said there was a great demand amongst the Chinese for bath-houses, as the return showed.

The PRESIDENT thought the matter had better be forwarded to the Government for consideration.

That was agreed to.

CAFE WEISMANN.

An application for a bake-house licence, in respect of No. 34, Queen's Road Central, and for permission to retain the water-closets and urinals on the premises, was made in respect of water-closets on Mr. Weismann's premises.

The PRESIDENT said that the case was somewhat involved. The matter had been previously considered, and on the 9th May they wrote to Mr. Weismann, saying that his bake-house licence would be granted if he removed the urinal, etc. Messrs. Palmer and Turner, architects then wrote on behalf of Mr. Weismann asking the Board to reconsider their decision on condition that an independent water supply be provided. Correspondence was still being exchanged on the matter, it first being proposed to use salt water, and then they thought a well sunk would be better.

Mr. POLLOCK thought they had better see what Mr. Weismann proposed to do about the water supply before they gave a decision.

Dr. PEARSE explained that the urinal in question was made when the Hongkong Club had the premises.

Mr. HEWETT said they had nothing to do with that; that was years ago. A tank to contain 1,000 gallons was not sufficient for flushing it. If Mr. Weismann could not make an independent water supply the drain had better be closed. In the past things were different to what they are now.

The PRESIDENT: You made the same statement in May.

Mr. HEWETT was not satisfied that there would be a sufficient supply.

Mr. RUMJAHN asked how they were to be guaranteed that salt water only was used.

Mr. POLLOCK raised the question of whether the places could be legally closed if permission had been granted to the Hongkong Club. That was 20 or 30 years ago, of course, when the Board did not exist, such matters then being under the P. W. D.

It was suggested that Mr. Weismann be asked to produce the certificate of permission regarding the erection of the urinals, etc.

Mr. POLLOCK asked how could Mr. Weismann show a Sanitary Board certificate if the Board did not exist when they were erected?

At the suggestion of Mr. POLLOCK it was decided to get an opinion on the matter from the Crown Solicitor or the Attorney-General.

DRAINAGE.

With respect to a proposed alteration of the drainage of Inland Lot No. 1,568, the Hon. D.P.W. minuted:—If approved a manhole for cleaning purposes should be arranged for.

The PRESIDENT moved that they approve of the alteration if a manhole and ventilator at the head of the drain be provided.

Mr. POLLOCK seconded and it was carried.

A CONTRACTOR.

Fung Yung, contractor, sent in an application requesting that his name be added to the list of authorised contractors.

The application was granted.

REGARDING FOOD.

Several applications for licences regarding the sale and preparation of food, etc., were discussed and treated on their respective merits.

WATER ANALYSIS.

Mr. Arthur C. Franklin, Government Analyst, in his report dated "Government Laboratory, 31st May," certified that the water from Pokfulam, Tytam, Kowloon and Cheng-shawan services was of excellent quality.

MORTALITY.

The mortality statistics for the week ended 4th June showed the following death rate per 1,000 per annum:—British and Foreign civil population, 5.1; Chinese land population, 20.8; Chinese boat population, 6.2; the whole Colony (excluding Army and Navy), 18.1.

LIME-WASHING.

The Lime-washing Return for the fortnight ended 7th inst. showed no prosecutions.

RATS.

The number of infected rats caught is increasing in proportion to the total number caught. During the week ended on the 13th inst. 403 rats were caught at Hongkong, including 47 infected rats; and 212 rats were caught at Kowloon, including 15 infected rats.

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 13th June.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

A REPROOF.

Mr. Vania, a Parsee, appeared in Court to make an application for a summons against certain persons.

His Lordship said he had consented to sit rather earlier that morning in order to give Mr. Vania an opportunity publicly of stating what his application was. He had written letters, his Lordship said, and generally worried him in a very improper manner. Any application which he wished to make must be made in due and proper form.

Mr. Vania—Well, I am charged with contempt of Court?

His Lordship—You are charged with nothing at the present moment.

Mr. Vania then went on to relate the particulars of the case which had led up to his application. It appeared that about a year ago he had entered into litigation against two Parsees in respect of the estate of a deceased Parsee merchant, and that it had been agreed by consent that each party should send in all papers, letters, etc., relating to the matter. The other side did so, but the applicant failed to do that which had been agreed upon. He now applied for a summons against these two persons for embezzlement or misguidance of the estate and for \$50,000 damages.

His Lordship, addressing Mr. Vania said.—If other litigants acted as you have chosen to act, it would be impossible for the administration of justice in this Colony to be properly carried on. You have written letters to me both at my chambers and at my private house, with reference to matters you have already litigated, or are litigating or desire to litigate. In any case your conduct is highly improper, and I must put a stop to it, unless, indeed, your own sense of what is right and decorous leads you to conduct yourself with propriety in future. I will point out what has occurred so that you may understand your position. It seems that a Parsee merchant named Ratanjee Cursetjee Vania, whom I understand to have been your uncle, died here, about 28th June, 1899. His widow, who was in India, sent a power of attorney to Mr. Arjanee and yourself to enable you jointly and severally to take out administration to her deceased husband's estate for her use and benefit. This Power of Attorney was dated 29th May, 1899. Mr. Arjanee did not use the Power, but you availed yourself of it and in September, 1899, you obtained letters of administration.

You swore the value of the estate to be \$6,300.00, and alleged the debts to amount to \$18,000; but as only debts due to persons resident in the Colony (which amounted to \$4,048.43) can be deducted for probate duty, such duty was paid upon the sum of \$2,251.57. You had some difficulty about obtaining a surety, but eventually Sorabjee Byramjee Bhabha became your surety, on condition that the books and papers connected with the estate were lodged with Mr. Arjanee to whom, with yourself, the power of attorney had been sent; you having all proper access to them for the purpose of winding up the estate, an arrangement to which you assented. On 22nd March, 1900, you duly filed your account of the estate and of your administration, in your own handwriting, and you declared to its correctness in the usual form, and one would have supposed the matter was concluded. More than two years elapsed and then, on May 7th 1902, you brought on action against Mr. Arjanee claiming the return of certain books and papers belonging to the estate, or, in the alternative, \$5,000, by way of damages. On 9th July, 1902, the widow revoked her previous power of attorney to you and Arjanee, and gave a fresh one to Burjorjee Nowrojee Futtakia, who filed a petition for administration. Consideration of this petition was adjourned, pending the hearing of the action I have mentioned. That action was heard on 26th June, 1903, by me. You appeared in person and Mr. Slade appeared for the defendant, Mr. Arjanee. It seemed a satisfactory solution that all the books and papers should be sent to the widow in India, so that she could take advice and see whether she was satisfied with what had been done. At the trial, that was the arrangement come to, by consent of both parties, and the following order to which you consented in open Court was made:—That the books, etc., mentioned in the claim and all books, correspondence, etc., belonging to the estate of the deceased R. C. Vania be handed to the Registrar of the Court and be forwarded by him to the High Court in Bombay for the widow of the deceased, at the expense of the parties—Each party to pay his own costs. The Registrar informs me that Mr. Arjanee kept faith by duly bringing into the Registry the books and papers in his possession accompanied by a list thereof, and that they were forwarded to the Registrar of the High Court in Bombay, on 3rd July, 1903, whose acknowledgement reached here on the 19th August, 1903, accompanied by a receipt for the same by the widow. You, however, did not keep faith with the Court. Months went by without your sending any of the books and papers in your possession relating to the estate into the Registry, and it was not until the 4th of May, 1904, that you brought in a box of papers with a list which contained a lot of comments and statements in red ink. Your one-sided comments were not required, but only the documents and a simple list, and accordingly you were requested to remove them and return them with a simple list, a draft form of which the Registrar, Mr. Seth, kindly provided you with. The next day you returned to the Registry and informed the Registrar that you declined to give up the books and papers in question. So the widow, for whose use and benefit the grant of administration was made to you, has never received those books and papers. On 5th December, 1903, you brought an action against Mr. Arjanee and Mr. Bhabha, claiming \$50,000, the value of landed property situate in Shameen, and shares in public companies alleged to belong to the estate of the deceased (Vania) and you applied to issue a concurrent writ against Bhabha and asked me for leave to serve it in Bombay. I have no jurisdiction to deal with landed property outside this Colony, and apart from that, the Code Section 42, sub. sec. (2) says "No such leave shall be granted unless it is made sufficiently to appear to the Court that the case is a proper one for service of the jurisdiction." I accordingly adjourned your application for further affidavits on that point, and these have never been filed, and on the 31st December, 1903, under your instructions, your solicitors, Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, withdrew the proceedings without leave to bring a fresh action. In such case, Section 316, sub. sec. (3) of the Code says the plaintiff shall be precluded from bringing a fresh action for the same cause of action. In

spite of this you, on 26th April, 1904, made a fresh application in Chambers for leave to serve Mr. Bhabha in Bombay with that concurrent writ. Of course leave was refused. Now it seems you think proper to write letters to me and asked to see me and take up my judicial time and that of the Registrar with applications which I have no jurisdiction to entertain, unless they are brought before me officially in due course and time. I have taken the trouble to thus explain your position to you in order that you may not, in future, plead ignorance of it. I much fear that, unless your friend can persuade you to cease this course of conduct, you will eventually have cause to regret your obstinacy.

Wednesday, 15th June.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR W. M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

IN BANKRUPTCY.

Re THE PO FUNG BANK.

Upon the application of the Official Receiver, the Court ordered that an issue be tried as to whether Lo Yuk Shang, Kwong King Tong, and Kwong Yik Lam were partners in the Po Fung Bank at the date of the petition in bankruptcy being filed, or at such other date as the Court may determine. This issue came on for trial.

Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., instructed by Mr. John Hastings, solicitor, appeared on behalf of the Official Receiver to show that the men were partners; and Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister, instructed by Mr. H. W. Looker, solicitor, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon, appeared for the other side.

Mr. SHARP said that the position as they understood it was very simple. There were two partners termed managing partners, while the other three partners denied partnership. They would prove that these three people were all partners in this firm, from the commencement in 1901 to the time of bankruptcy. They would prove partnership, in fact, at various intervals of time between the commencement and the bankruptcy. Time, however, was not an important point, as the three men denied *in toto* the partnership. They did not take up the position that they had once been partners, but had ceased to be so before the time of bankruptcy. His case was rather a gigantic thing, as they understood that there was a conspiracy amongst the partners to defeat justice and defraud the creditors by concealing the names of the partners. When the crisis came the managing partners, of course, had nothing.

His LORDSHIP:—Are they here?

Mr. LOOKER ascertained that the managing partners were present.

Mr. SHARP, continuing, said that the liabilities of the bank were \$120,000, \$3,000 of which had been recovered. They expected in all to recover \$10,000, but nothing from the managing partners personally. \$65,000 they would prove to have been advanced to a shop belonging to one Kwong Chai Yu without security or a promissory note; or, rather, \$51,000 to one shop, and \$14,000 to another shop belonging to the father of the first man. While business was brisk the place was full of partners, but at other times none were to be seen. "I think, my Lord, there should be compulsory registration of partners," Counsel added.

The CHIEF JUSTICE said he had been strongly in favour of compulsory registration of partners, and his brother justice and Mr. Justice Wise held the same view. It had been proposed to carry this idea through in the Straits, but it had been found impracticable. It was simply intolerable that there were no means of ascertaining who were the partners in a Chinese business. If compulsory registration were introduced some would object and others would not. He would call the attention of the Government to the matter. A quarter of the Court's time was taken up determining who were the partners in business.

Mr. SHARP, proceeding, said that in the autumn of 1901 the bank was started, mainly by the Kwong Wing Chung Shop, and the other Kwongs. The three men in question, Lo Yuk Shang, Kwong King Tong, and Kwong Yik Lam, were all partners or employees in the Kwong Wing Shop. When the business was

started the method of getting business together was by obtaining money on deposit amongst friends. The three alleged partners went amongst their own friends and stated that they were partners, and in this way got together a considerable business. This method of touting commenced at the start and continued up to the time of bankruptcy. The bank did a large business among American Chinese, as one of the partners had lived in America. He would prove that all three took part in the touting, but Lo Yuk Shang in particular. This continued to the last Chinese New Year, when the bank was in difficulties, and early in March a run on the bank set in. Depositors went to see the three men in question, demanding their money and threatening legal proceedings. They were satisfied for the time being by a statement that if the bank could not pay the partners would do so. From about the 13th to the 17th of March the partners sent around daily calling meetings at the bank to discuss the situation. This continued till the two managing partners were arrested. At the meetings the two managing partners and Lo Yuk Shang were nearly always present. The partners never despaired, but made repeated assurances that if the bank could not pay the depositors it would be all right. On the 18th March the present proceedings began.

Evidence was led.

The case was adjourned.

Thursday, 16th June.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR W. M. GOODMAN
(CHIEF JUSTICE.)

IN BANKRUPTCY.

THE PO FUNG BANK.

Upon the application of the Official Receiver, the Court had ordered that an issue be tried as to whether Lo Yuk Shang, Kwong King Tong, and Kwong Yik Lam were partners in the Po Fung Bank at the date of the petition in bankruptcy being filed, or at such other date as the Court may determine.

Evidence was given in disproof of the assertion that these men were partners.

RECEIVING ORDER.

In the matter of the Tung Chan firm, *ex parte* the Sui Kat Bank, Mr. J. Scott Harston, of Messrs. Ewens and Harston, solicitors, appeared for the petitioning creditors and applied for a receiving order.

Mr. John Hastings, solicitor, appeared on behalf of the debtors.

His Lordship—Are the assets all right?

The Official Receiver (Mr. Bruce Shepherd)—Yes, my Lord.

His Lordship granted a receiving order and appointed Mr. Bruce Shepherd receiver on the estate.

A MURDER TRIAL AT CANTON.

AN INDIAN SENTENCED OF DEATH

Canton, 14th May.

In the British Consular Court at Canton this morning the trial was commenced before Sir Hiram S. Wilkinson, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court at Shanghai, of an Indian named Abdul Khalik, who is charged with having on 24th March last at Sainam murdered another Indian named Mahomed Jemal.

Prisoner (who is quite a young man) pleaded not guilty.

Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C., barrister-at-law, Hongkong, conducted the prosecution on behalf of the Crown Advocate, Mr. W. A. C. Platt, Shanghai; and Mr. Francis Ellis, solicitor, Shanghai, appeared for the defence.

The following jury was empanelled:—Messrs. R. Leslie, W. Gates, L. H. Gilman, J. R. Powell Grant, and H. S. Smith.

Mr. E. A. Staunton failed to answer to his name when the jury list was read over, and in his absence was fined \$50.

Mr. Hogg, who was elected to the jury, was excused from serving after he had explained that he was the only representative of the International Banking Corporation in Canton, and that the closing of the Bank would incur legal penalties.

Several ladies were present in Court.

Hon. Mr. Pollock in his opening statement asked the jury to put away from their minds anything they might have heard or read about the case and deal only with the evidence brought before them. The principal witness for the prosecution was Sheer Ali, an Indian who was employed as a watchman on the railway at Sainam, and lived in the same matshed as the deceased man. This witness Sheer Ali would be able to tell them that on the afternoon of the 23rd March he was in the matshed where the murder afterwards took place just before going on duty, and saw there the prisoner and the deceased man, who was a kind of head watchman, and had it in his hands to engage and discharge watchmen, and his recommendations on that subject were usually adopted by the foreigners in charge of the railway. On this occasion Sheer Ali heard the deceased tell the prisoner that he was discharged from further duty for sleeping on duty. Sheer Ali, in ordinary circumstances, would have returned from duty at 4 a.m. on the 24th, but about two o'clock he heard a shot fired and called out, "Who fired?" Prisoner replied, "Come quickly; there are thieves." But Sheer Ali neither saw any thieves nor heard them running away. He went up to the prisoner, whom he found standing outside the matshed with a revolver in his hand. The first shot was followed by three or four others. Prisoner admitted that he fired these shots. He said to Sheer Ali, "You must come inside." Sheer Ali said, "You say thieves go outside; why go inside?" Prisoner then said, "You must come inside; I show you something." They went inside. It appeared that the prisoner then wept, and said his brother was dead. Sheer Ali saw the deceased man lying on the bed already dead, and he noticed there was some blood about his head; also, which was an important point, that the bed-clothes were smooth and even; they did not look rumpled up or as if they had been disturbed. He found that there was a bullet wound behind the deceased's ear. Sheer Ali and the prisoner went off to the office and reported the matter to the foreigners, of whom three or four returned with them to the matshed to view the body. Afterwards Sheer Ali and the prisoner were left together in the matshed, and Sheer Ali noticed that the prisoner was shaking very much, and the latter said he could not sit down on the other bed near the body. Sheer Ali asked him what was the matter with him; and prisoner replied, "I am afraid," and then vomited. About six o'clock in the morning another witness saw the prisoner moving about with a pillow on which the deceased man had been lying, which might turn out to be an important point. The bullet fired at the deceased man must have found a lodgment in the pillow, and yet a few hours after the murder it had disappeared out of the pillow. Sheer Ali also said that on the evening of the 23rd inst. he saw a Russian standing there in the matshed when he went in. This man had been taken in for the night as he was without employment. He was not forthcoming now, but one witness would state that prisoner said he told the Russian to go away. Sheer Ali got an order from Mr. Ward, who was in charge of part of the line, to bury the body. He and the prisoner, along with two other Indians and five Chinese coolies, went and buried it in the afternoon of the same day. As they were leaving the grave after the burial the prisoner said, looking at the grave, "You wanted me to be sent to Hongkong. Just now you lie there, and I have got my job and you are down." These words he uttered in an angry tone. Sheer Ali said to him, "The man was a good man; why do you say that?" Prisoner answered, "I wish the dogs would eat him." On the following day when prisoner was asked to subscribe \$1 towards the burial expenses, he said, "I do not want to subscribe it. I would like to see him eaten by the dogs, but I will pay the dollar." Prisoner was then arrested, but was released from custody after four or five days. Prisoner remarked to Sheer Ali that in China they killed people like a fowl and nobody asks a word. Next morning Sheer Ali asked prisoner why he killed the man. Prisoner laughed and said, "I am sorry just now I have done this thing; I could not help it." Early next morning the prisoner went away and was re-arrested in Hongkong. The revolver

in question was the property of the prisoner, who bought it from the deceased. The body was exhumed on 30th March. It was found that the bullet had gone completely through the skull. Two European witnesses would state that the prisoner told them that soldiers came to the matshed to steal, and the shots were fired at them. One of these witnesses would also say that when he first went into the matshed he noticed blood on the prisoner's hand. There had been an inquest held on the body by some Chinese official; on that occasion the prisoner said that if the mandarin did not hold a proper enquiry he would shoot four or five men and then kill himself.

Evidence was then taken.

The first witness was Sheer Ali, who gave evidence on the lines indicated by Mr. Pollock in his opening address. He identified a revolver produced as the one which prisoner had in his hand when witness met him outside the matshed.

Cross-examined—He had given evidence in regard to the death of the deceased four times, first to the superintendent, Mr. Brimble, and the Chinese mandarin; second, to the "English Viceroy"; third, before the Magistrate in Hongkong; fourth, before the British Consul-General at Canton. He had heard the deceased telling the prisoner that he would be fined \$3 two or three days before the 24th for being asleep on duty and neglect of duty. There was no other reason for the fines. When witness heard the first shot he went straight to the matshed. Asked whether when before the coroner he stated that he waited to obtain a lamp from the Chinese police before he crossed over, and that 15 minutes elapsed before he arrived at the matshed, witness said that he went straight for the lamp and then straight to the matshed. Before to-day he had told someone that he fired two shots at the suggestion of the prisoner. At his examination before the Consul he said he asked the prisoner why he killed the deceased, and the reply he got was that no enquiry would be made, just the same as they would kill a fowl. That was not correct. What the prisoner did say was that he was sorry just now for the thing he had done, but that he could not help it.

By the Court—He did not know whether deceased was right-handed or left-handed.

By a Jurymen—When he went into the matshed on the first occasion with the prisoner the deceased was lying on his back with his head turned round. He did not see the Russian that night. The Russian was arrested one day later than the accused. Deceased used to be on the railway at Port Arthur and could speak Russian; that was how the two came to be acquainted.

Canton, 15th June.

This morning the hearing was resumed of the case in which Abdul Khalik was charged with the murder of Mahomed Jemal at Sainam. Chief Justice Sir Hiram Wilkinson was on the Bench. Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C., conducted the prosecution, and Mr. F. Ellis, solicitor, the defence.

Mr. T. N. Ward, who is in charge of a section of the railway at Sainam, gave evidence of having been called to the matshed after the death of Jemal. He found on examination of the body that there was a bullet wound on the left side of the head and another on the right. From the appearance of the wounds he came to the conclusion that the bullet had entered on the left side and came out on the right side, having passed clean through the skull. He saw a rent on the top side of the pillow. He started to search for the bullet in the pillow, but thought it best to wait for daylight. The bullet might have penetrated the pillow or might have deflected. Both the prisoner and Sheer Ali were present when he made his examination of the body and the pillow. Prisoner said he was lying down and heard a pistol shot; he raised his head up and saw two men going out. Witness asked him what the men were and he replied that they were all the same as soldiers. He added that he followed out and shot after them. Before the conversation about firing after the two men took place he handed witness a revolver he had. He examined the chambers and found that the empty shells of the cartridges were there. He thought the revolver belonged to the deceased, and handed it back to the prisoner. About eight o'clock on the

following morning he cut the pillow open and searched it in presence of two other people. He did not find any bullet. On pulling the pillow to pieces the hole appeared to be an inch or two deep. The pillow was three or four inches deep. He was quite sure there was no hole in the bottom of the pillow, so the bullet could not have passed through it. He arrested the prisoner that night about eight o'clock on the information of two or three men; one of the men was Sheer Ali and another Hassan Safa. Prisoner was just going to bed, and witness said to him, "I understand that you killed your brother." He told prisoner to put on his clothes and come with him. Deceased, when he brought the prisoner before witness and recommended him for a job, described him as a brother. Witness employed the prisoner on deceased's recommendation. One morning the deceased came in and reported that he had found the prisoner asleep on duty and had fined him \$1, putting the dollar on the table. Witness told him to take it back. Prisoner was fined twice. He could not say whether that was one week or two weeks before the death of the deceased, but it was about a fortnight. He did not think he had ever dismissed any watchman on the recommendation of the deceased; he dismissed some himself.

Cross-examined—To the best of his knowledge, accused was in the employ of the railway at the time of Mahomed Jemal's death. He had given Jemal no authority to dismiss men. He could not say whether the second bed in the matshed had been occupied or not when he was called over on the morning of Jemal's death. The bed-cover was not pulled down, but it was roughed-up; it was not smooth. He did not say at the enquiry before the Vice-Consul that there was something like a man lying in this bed; that must have been taken down wrong. There was a Russian supposed to have been in that shed, but he did not know it at that time. The Russian told him he was there, when he returned that same night. He told witness he was in bed when the shot was fired; the shot wakened him up, and he saw a man whom he did not know run out of the room, and, being scared, he covered his head up.

By a Jurymen—When witness went over to the matshed first accused had all his clothes on apparently. When he came over to them he was dressed and had a lantern in his hand. He understood from the Russian that he was in the bed adjoining deceased's bed when the shot was fired. He did not know whether the Russian had any fire-arms in his hand or not. The Russian was brought back by his directions. When he heard the first shot and looked out he saw no light in the matshed; if there had been one inside he did not think he would have seen it, but he would have seen one if it had been outside.

By his Lordship—When the Russian was brought back he was put into the police quarters, close to where he stayed. He looked after him. The watchman was also there. The men slept in the same place, but in different rooms. The watchman remained there all the time, but the Russian got liberty to go about. They were there, he thought, about six days. He released them by orders of the engineer-in-chief. Prisoner had gone when the inquest was held. He did not go back to work on the railway after his release; witness would not let him do anything more for him after what had happened.

C. A. Long, foreman on the railway, described how in the early morning of the 24th March he was wakened up by Mr. Ward, the previous witness, and went up to the matshed where the body of deceased was lying. Mr. Moore accompanying then, and examined it. His evidence was substantially corroborative of that of the previous witnesses.

Other evidence was led.

Hon. Mr. Pollock in addressing the jury contended that Sheer Ali, the principal witness for the Crown, had given his evidence in a very satisfactory manner and seemed a trustworthy witness. With reference to any slight variations that might be pointed out in this witness's evidence as given at the trial and that which he gave on previous occasions on which he was examined in connection with the same case, Mr. Pollock quoted Queen v. Wainwright, 13 Cox, 171 (21st edition) as showing that little importance must be attached to any such variations between the evidence given at the trial and

that given on deposition before the Magistrate. He contended that there was substantial agreement between the story of Sheer Ali as told before that Court and as told by him on previous occasions. With regard to the presence of the Russian in the matshed at the time of the deceased's death, the evidence had shown that the prisoner did not attempt to blame the Russian for having fired the fatal shot, but on the contrary he said that the culprits were two men dressed like Chinese soldiers. Prisoner had stated also that when these men fired the fatal shot he was asleep on the same bed as the deceased, yet this was not borne out by the evidence which showed that the bed-clothes were quite smooth and unrumpled. If the shot had been fired from the direction of the door by the robbers the bullet would have entered not the left side of the head, but the right side. Having gone through the main points in the evidence Mr. Pollock said in conclusion that the prosecution submitted that here they had a man, the prisoner, who had a motive for committing the crime. They had shown that he might not unreasonably be supposed to have entertained some grudge against the deceased. There was also the fact that the deceased met his death from the wound of a bullet such as might have come out of a revolver. There was the fact of the deceased giving an account of the affair which they could not accept. They had also the fact that even after the man's death the prisoner was stated to have used angry expressions against the deceased at the grave. The prosecution had shown that the prisoner was guilty of this offence. Perhaps the jury might say that if they had only one or two facts of that sort to go upon they might consider that they were strong enough to convict upon, but when they had all these facts concurring and coming together, did it point to any other reasonable conclusion than that this man's hand was the hand that actually committed the crime? The Russian was there, but there did not seem to be the smallest ground for saying that the Russian did this. The prisoner had never attempted to put the crime upon him. He said he ordered him away, which was a thing that might be expected, seeing that the Russian had been discharged from the railway and that there would very likely have been trouble had he been found on the premises. Prisoner put forward a story which was improbable on the face of it. There was no doubt a somewhat serious responsibility rested upon the jury in this case, but at the same time they had to ask themselves the question whether all these points he had mentioned did not bring the matter home to the prisoner in such a way as to make them practically certain that his was the hand which shot the fatal bullet. All these circumstances occurring together did show, it seemed to him, that the prisoner was the man who committed the crime.

Mr. Ellis in addressing the jury on behalf of the prisoner, said this was a case of circumstantial evidence alone. Such evidence sometimes was the only evidence available, but it must be of a very strong character before a jury should convict. The principal witness was Sheer Ali, and he would ask the jury not to accept his evidence without careful sifting. He did not suggest that Sheer Ali deliberately committed perjury, but he suggested that it was possible he might have made mistakes which, though of a very trifling character, were of a very serious nature when they considered the evidence of the man as a whole. The jury would have to decide whether there was any evidence of any grudge or ill-feeling at all between the accused and the unfortunate deceased. He would point out the very important question which was put by Sheer Ali to the accused as to why he killed the deceased. They would notice that in one part Sheer Ali's statement of the answer was of a certain character, and in the second part of it it was actually an admission on the part of the accused that he did kill the deceased. The question of motive was a most damning factor, but there was no tittle of evidence to show that the deceased had given cause for any grudge or motive. As to the Russian, they could not decide why he went away, but they ought to give to everything which was brought forward in the case weight and consideration for or

against it. With regard to the searching of the pillow, as was alleged, surely it was not strange that the accused should do the same thing as the others had done where the man who had been killed was a man whom he called his brother? Unless the jury were satisfied that the evidence was clear, fair, and conclusive, they must discharge the accused man.

His Lordship, in charging the jury, said it was only natural that when this man died, the accused felt he ought to make a statement. With reference to what that statement was, the jury would have to decide upon the trustworthiness of Sheer Ali's evidence and demeanour in the box. The only evidence that was corroborated, as to the accused's statement, was that of others than natives which, there was no concealing the fact, was more valuable than uncorroborated native evidence. With regard to the two soldiers mentioned by the accused, one of whom had a long gun, he put it to the jury that their existence was highly improbable; and it was impossible for a wound of the nature inflicted to have been inflicted by a long gun considering the position of the bed and the position of the deceased upon the bed. As to the Russian, there was no evidence that he had a revolver, and prisoner had never suggested that the Russian had committed this crime. It was to be regretted that the Russian had been allowed to go away. It was a sad thing that a British subject could be murdered within a short distance of a Consulate and no information be given of the circumstance. It was a pity that the Russian should have got away, but in their consideration of the guilt or innocence of the prisoner jurors were often confronted with the fact that a case had not been presented to them quite as satisfactorily as they could wish; and the fact that the Russian was not here was no reason why the jury should find the prisoner not guilty if they came to the conclusion that he was guilty on the evidence presented to them. After dealing with other points of the evidence, his Lordship went on to review that of Sheer Ali, saying that the only real discrepancy therein was his statement about the firing of the two shots himself at the matshed. If there was a reason needed why the prisoner should make the statement to Sheer Ali admitting his crime it might be found in the fact that the prisoner had been under arrest and afterwards been liberated, so he would naturally consider that the matter was at an end. The whole evidence as to motive was that of Sheer Ali, but unless in that way there was any probable way of this man's death having been caused by the prisoner.

The jury retired to consider their verdict, and returned after an absence of about a quarter of an hour with a verdict of guilty.

The prisoner heard the verdict unmoved.

His Lordship, having put on the black cap, said—Abdul Khalik, you have, after most careful and faithful enquiry, confirmed by a verdict in which I entirely concur, been found guilty of the murder of Mohamed Ali. The sentence of the Court is that you, Khalik, shall be taken from the place where you now stand to His Majesty's Consulate Prison at Canton, being the place in which you were last incarcerated; and on a day to be fixed by the proper authority you shall be taken to the place of execution within the said prison there and hanged by the neck until you are dead; and your body shall be burned within the precincts of the said prison; and may God Almighty have mercy on your soul.

The Chief Justice was visibly affected as he pronounced the last words of the sentence.

The prisoner heard his doom with striking composure, and was understood to ask through the interpreter when the sentence would be carried out.

His Lordship—The sentence I now pass will not be carried into execution here until I have reported this matter to His Majesty's Minister in Peking, and it will be for him to direct whether the sentence shall be carried into execution or not, or whether he will be pleased to commute the sentence for any other sentence; but I can hold out no hope to you that the sentence will be commuted, and I advise you to prepare for it being carried into execution.

The prisoner said that the people who had given evidence against him were his enemies.

His Lordship—Nothing that the prisoner can say now is of any use in this Court. If he

has any representations to make he must make them to His Majesty's Minister in Peking if he thinks there are circumstances which ought to be brought to the notice of His Majesty's Minister.

Prisoner again attempted to demonstrate. His Lordship—Remove the prisoner.

The condemned man was led away to the cells.

His Lordship in thanking the jury said—Gentlemen, fortunately for Canton, the jurors are not called upon often to take part in criminal trials, but to show my appreciation of the trouble you have taken and the time you have been detained I order that you be released from jury duty until the end of next year.

The Court rose.

THE FAR EAST IN PARLIAMENT.

The following extracts are made from the Parliamentary reports to hand by the week's mails:—

THE PEKING SYNDICATE RAILWAY.

Mr. YERBURGH asked the Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs in what position the negotiations with the Chinese Government concerning the railways of the Peking Syndicate now stand.

Lord PERCY:—The only railway with regard to which the Peking Syndicate is negotiating is the Taokow-Tsachow Railway. The negotiations at Shanghai between the agent of the Syndicate and the Director-General of Railways are still proceeding.

"NO PROTECTION AT ALL." AT NEWCHWANG.

Mr. C. M. ARTHUR asked the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs whether the British Consul at Newchwang had requested the dispatch of a gunboat to that port for the protection of British interests, in view of the danger of pillage by brigands upon or immediately subsequent to the reported Russian retirement; and could he say what steps were being taken for the safeguarding of British life and property in the contingency mentioned.

Earl PERCY:—The answer to the first question is in the negative. Newchwang being in the theatre of war, His Majesty's Government took some time ago the only course open to them by addressing representations to the belligerents, and requesting them to take such measures as the circumstances might permit to safeguard the interests of British subjects at Newchwang. A reply was received from the Russian Government stating that all precautions would be taken for the protection of the lives and property of British subjects.

Mr. C. M. ARTHUR:—But what is the position of British subjects and property if neither belligerent is in charge? What protection is there from brigandage? My point is that in the interval between the retirement of the Russians and the entry of the Japanese, what protection will there be for British life and property?

Earl PERCY:—I do not suppose, if there was such an interval, there would be any protection at all.

Mr. G. BOWLES:—In that event would not Newchwang revert to its own proper sovereign, the Chinese Government? Would they not be responsible?

Earl PERCY was understood to say that he did not believe the Chinese administered Newchwang.

THE PLAGUE AND CHINESE EMIGRANTS.

Mr. LYTTELTON, the Colonial Secretary, replying to Sir W. Foster, said he received a telegram from the officer administering the government of Hongkong stating that one case of bubonic plague had occurred in a lodging-house partly occupied by emigrants, the patient was a rejected emigrant, and that there had been no other case among the emigrants up to the present time. He (Mr. Lyttelton) believed this was the case. So long as the medical advisers of the local Government did not regard the conditions under which the Chinese labourers were introduced into the Transvaal as involving undue risk, and subject to such precautions as they thought necessary, he did not, as at present advised, propose to interfere. The length of the voyage from China was largely in excess of the period of incubation of the disease, and this very greatly reduced the risk of the introduction of plague.

Mr. BUCHANAN asked the Colonial Secretary whether, owing to the outbreak of plague at Hongkong, the charters for the steamers on the

point of starting with Chinese indentured labourers for the Transvaal had been cancelled.

Mr. LYTTELTON: No, sir.

In reply to Mr. Weir Mr. LYTTELTON said: I am informed by the officer administering the government of Hongkong that intending emigrants on arrival there during the last fortnight have been accommodated in ordinary Chinese lodging-houses in Kowloon, of which a number have been hired and placed under special medical inspection. A permanent isolated depot is being built four miles from Kowloon, and isolated temporary accommodation will be ready in two days. All emigrants who satisfy the emigration officer and pass strict medical examination will be sent there pending shipment, those rejected being sent home.

Mr. LYTTELTON, replying on a subsequent occasion to Sir W. Foster, said he was not aware of the cost of housing intending Chinese emigrants for the Transvaal at Hongkong during their detention, but the charge of isolation and inspection would be borne by the importers.

THE CHINESE WAR INDEMNITY.

Mr. McCrae in the House of Commons on the 16th ult. asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether he could now state if the annual instalments of over £300,000 receivable in respect of the Chinese war indemnity would, after the private claims of British subjects had been satisfied, be applied to the reduction of debt according to the terms of the undertaking of the Chancellor of the Exchequer in 1902.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer: The instalment receivable from China at the end of next month is expected to suffice for the paying off the balance of the private claims. The remaining instalments will be applicable to the discharge of the British Government claim and of certain claims in respect of damage to the northern railways, which were included in the Government claim. It has not yet been settled in what manner the railway claims are to be liquidated. Pending settlement on that matter, it would be premature to propose to Parliament to decide as to the ultimate application of the receipts.

THE TIBETAN MISSION.

In reply to questions by Mr. Trevelyan and Mr. Bowles, Mr. Brodrick stated that the advance on Lhasa has been sanctioned, unless within a period fixed by the Indian Government the Chinese Amban arrives at Gyangtse, accompanied by a competent Tibetan negotiator. If this condition is not fulfilled, the advance will take place without any further delay. Mr. Brodrick added that the Government have left it to the Government of India to decide the period. They have not yet been informed what that period is. He declined, in reply to Mr. Lambert, to furnish the House with details as to the strength of the Mission then at Gyangtse and the stores possessed by them, on the ground that it would not be desirable at the moment to publish details. The Government have sanctioned the despatch of any reinforcements which the India Government may consider necessary for the safety of the Mission or for the lines of communication.

In reply to Mr. Lambert, who asked for an early opportunity to discuss the new development of the Government's policy in regard to Tibet, Mr. Balfour said there was no new development that he was aware of. No doubt if there was reason for such a discussion it would be found possible to carry out the suggestion.

CHINESE LABOUR.

In reply to Mr. H. Samuel, on the 18th ult., Mr. Lyttelton said: The Chinese labourers will be employed on piecework and will be able to earn about 50s. or more—the best workers should earn 60s. Those not employed on piecework will receive wages according to the schedule at p. 151 of c. 2,025. If the average pay of those in the service of any employer does not equal 50s. for thirty working days within six months, the minimum rate will be increased from 1s. to 1s. 6d. per working day of ten hours. I understand from the above schedule that the present pay of Kaffirs for underground labour varies from 1s. 2d. to 2s. 6d. a day.

In reply to Mr. Markham, Mr. Lyttelton said the definite position he had endeavoured to uphold in the negotiations with Lord Milner was that the introduction of Chinese labour into

the Transvaal should not be permitted in any way to undercut Kaffir wages.

THE SHERWOOD FORESTERS.

IMPRESSIVE MEMORIAL SERVICE AT THE CATHEDRAL.

The 15th inst. was the day appointed for the unveiling in St. Mary's Church, Nottingham, of a Memorial Brass to the memory of the officers and men of the 1st Battalion the Sherwood Foresters (Notts and Derbyshire Regiment) who fell in the Boer War; and in connection with this occasion a most impressive service was held yesterday morning in St John's Cathedral, when 250 officers and men of the Regiment forming an item in the force at present garrisoning the Colony, attended. The officers of the Regiment present were Colonel Watts, the officer commanding the Battalion; Captain Green, D.S.O., Captain Pennell, V.C., Captain Radford, Lieutenant Manby, Sub-Lieutenant Dumbell, Sub-Lieutenant Foster, Lieu'-Adjutant Popham, and Lieutenant-Quartermaster Barrow.

There were also present His Excellency Mr. F. H. May, C.M.G., the Officer Administering the Government; attended by his aide-de-camp, Captain M. K. Hodgson; Major-General Sir Villiers-Hatton, C.B., the Officer Commanding the Forces, with his aide-de-camp, Capt. E. S. Ward (2nd Grenadier Guards); Major A. B. Hamilton, Major Chichester, D.S.O., Commodore Dicken, and many others.

The Headquarters wing paraded at Murray Barracks in review order at 8.40 a.m. and marched to the Cathedral without music. During the singing of the Processional Hymn, "Through the night of doubt and sorrow," the colours of the Regiment were brought up the nave of the Cathedral by Sub-Lieutenants Dumbell and Foster, escorted by three men with fixed bayonets, and stacked in front of the altar.

The service was conducted by the Rev. E. J. Hardy, Chaplain to His Majesty's Forces, assisted by the Bishop of Victoria and his acting Chaplain, the Rev. Mr. Jenkins. The processional hymn was followed by the recital of the Lord's Prayer, the 23rd Psalm, and the reading of the Lesson, which was taken from the Book of Wisdom, iii 1-10. Then followed the Apostles' Creed and five prayers. These concluded, the Band of the Battalion, under the direction of Bandmaster Bradley, played with magnificent effect the Dead March in *Saul*. Then came the "Last Post," sounded by three buglers inside the Church, three volleys being fired from outside the Cathedral in the intervals. Then the Bishop of Victoria recited from the Burial Service the words "I heard a voice from Heaven saying," etc., and three buglers from the altar steps sounded the "Reveille." The congregation standing, the Bishop recited two prayers from the Burial Service; the hymn "Brief life is here our portion" followed, and then the Bishop pronounced the Benediction. "God Save the King," sung by the entire congregation with grand effect, brought a solemnly impressive service to a close.

Outside in the Cathedral grounds Major-General Hatton distributed to a large number of men who had won them the Queen's South African medals. Following is a list of the recipients:—

"B" Company.—Lance-Sergt. T. Pritchard, 6780, Corporal F. George, 6855, Corporal G. Walker, 6618, Lance-Corporal D. Brandon, 6725, Lance-Corporal P. Doolan, 5306, Privates C. Johnstone, 6776, W. Lewington, 6733, R. Mantle, 6178, J. Mellars, 5513, S. Thomas, 6771, A. Dodd, 6365.

"E" Company.—Sergeant Blackwell, 4915, Lance-Corporal Jones, 6216, Privates Hanson, 5942, Rice, 6316, Wilkins, 5924.

"G" Company.—Sergt. R. Johnson, 5065, Corpl. L. Hannon, 6572, Lance-Corporal T. Madin, 6695, Privates J. Bowler, 5879, E. Bilbie, 6669, A. Binns, 6078, E. Dalton, 6831, E. Elshaw, 5703, W. Innis, 6774, J. O'Donnell, 6852, T. Pridmore, 6784, J. Stuart, 6600, A. Thomas, 6811, W. Welsh, 6161, W. Collier, 6752, Lance-Corporal J. Barnes, 6745, Lance-Corporal J. Foster, 6212, Private J. Storer, 6797.

"H" Company.—Lance-Corporal T. Craig, 5921, Lance-Corporal A. Smith, 5268, Lance-Corporal O. Barnes, 5965, Private W. Bingley, 6142, Private M. Bysaters, 5536, Lance-Corporal J. Freer, 6339, Privates C. Hornby, 5823, J. Hudson, 5720, R. Pitt, 5734, B. Reynolds, 6350, F. Sainsbury, 5183, F. Simpson, 5964, A. Spencer, 6268, W. Vickers, 5667, A. Wilkins, 6349, H. Wilson, 6598.

After the presentation of medals the men were paraded on the Parade Ground and then returned to Barracks.

SIR HENRY BLAKE AND MR. IRELAND.

The following letter appears in the *Times* of May 19th:—

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE TIME."

SIR,—I have no desire to prolong the controversy with your Special Correspondent, Mr. Alleyne Ireland, on the past shortcomings of the Government of Hongkong, nor would I offer any reply to his letter appearing in *The Times* of April 2, were it not that in a leading article in *The Times* of April 7 it was assumed that Mr. Ireland's last letter disposed of the facts given by me in answer to the statements in his first. Mr. Ireland based his strictures upon two statements, first—that "though a serious outbreak of plague took place in 1894 it was not until 1901 that the Government took the matter thoroughly in hand." Immediately after the outbreak in 1894 a large congested area of the city was cleared, at an expense of \$318,000, and from that time to the date of my letter, which appeared in *The Times* of November 10, the Government had spent \$1,987,000 in special works of sanitation, while the annual cost of the sanitary staff, that in 1893 stood at \$59,000, has increased in this year's estimates to \$580,000. Year by year continuous efforts were made to control the annually recurring epidemic, and it was in consequence of the failure of every measure that could be devised that I applied for and obtained the services of Professor Simpson and Mr. Osbert Chadwick. The second statement was that suggestions made by Mr. Osbert Chadwick in 1882 as to water supply were only carried out in part, and after an interval of 20 years he was called upon to make another report upon the water supply of the colony.

That report, dated April 10, 1902, had evidently escaped Mr. Ireland's attention when he wrote his special article on Hongkong. During the 20 years the population had increased from 160,000 to 290,000. Mr. Chadwick recapitulates his recommendations made in 1882, which were adopted by Mr. Cooper, the then director of public works. In paragraph 55 he writes:—

"The conclusion which I have arrived at may be summarized as follows:—(a) The works recommended by Mr. Cooper as urgently required have been carried out with good results."

Since the date of Mr. Chadwick's first report \$2,350,000 have been spent on waterworks, and the Kowloon reservoir, now approaching completion, will cost \$600,000 more. On recommendations embodied in Mr. Chadwick's last report still further heavy expenditure has been approved.

With these facts, taken from official sources, I am content to leave the question as to weight of evidence to which the writer of your leading article of April 7 alludes in the last paragraph.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

HENRY A. BLAKE.

Colombo, April 26.

The news of the death of Mr. Charles William Gordon, of Messrs. Ramsay & Co., Hankow, the *N.C. Daily News* says, will be received with profound regret in Shanghai, as well as in Hankow, where he had resided for over twenty years, and where he was universally liked and respected. He married within the last two years or so a sister of Lady Cameron, of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, with whom very deep sympathy will be felt. He was a nephew of one of the first residents in Hankow. Mr. William G. Gordon, and Hankow will remember for a long time the genial and popular "Charlie" Gordon. He died at Kuling on the 28th ult. at the age of 54.

THE TREATMENT OF PLAGUE.

"A HIGHER PERCENTAGE OF RECOVERIES."

Dr. Koch in his report for 1903 as medical officer in charge of the Infectious Diseases Hospital makes the following remarks on the subject of plague cases:—

There were 301 cases of plague admitted for treatment, of whom 248 were males and 53 females, the former being 82.4 per cent., the latter 17.6 per cent., and the proportion of males to females being about 6 to 1. Of the admissions 139 males and 37 females died, and there were discharged cured 109 males and 16 females. The recoveries among the males amounted to 44 per cent., and among the females to 30 per cent., roughly, three males recovering as compared with two females. Of the deaths 56 per cent. were among the men, and 70 per cent. among the women. The Europeans numbered 27, and there were two deaths, giving a mortality of 7.4 per cent. Three Portuguese were admitted, of whom two died, equalling 66.6 per cent. Of 216 Chinese, 156 died, making a percentage of 72.2, and of other races 55 cases were admitted, of whom 16 died, giving a percentage of 28.2. Thus it will be noted that the better fed European, brought up and living amid more healthy surroundings, and who is presumably more stalwart and of a more robust physical development, has the greater chance of recovery than a patient of any of the other races. In treatment the greatest success has been obtained by the free use of carbolic acid. The very purest preparation should be used, and in order to be efficacious it should be given in large doses—12 grains or more every two hours. As an aid to treatment, and to counteract the depressions, the free exhibition of stimulants such as strychnine, digitalis, and alcohol is called for. It would seem, moreover, that the better results obtained this year—the higher percentage of recoveries—are to be attributed to the earlier and more positive diagnosis of plague which has been rendered possible by Dr. Bell's adaptation of Ross's method of examination of the blood.

Dr. Bell in his report as Superintendent of the Government Civil Hospital says:—78 cases of plague were admitted with 5 deaths. The bulk of the cases were, of course, transferred to the Infectious Diseases Hospital. As soon as the epidemic started we had a stock mixture of carbolic acid (20 minims for a dose) made up, and all cases were put on this as soon as they came in—if the blood showed no malaria and the symptoms pointed to plague—so that no time was lost in starting the treatment. In view of the favourable report issued by Dr. Thomson, I would like to point out that, though I suggested this treatment to you, the real credit for introducing this drug in such large doses belongs to Dr. A. Wigglesworth, of Liverpool.

HONGKONG V. MANILA.

[FROM THE "MANILA CABLENEWS."]

Whoever has dwelt long enough in Manila to know this city and who visits Hongkong, cannot but contrast the two places. There are few feelings so depressing as that which steals over the Manilan condemned to endure a week or more off the Kowloon shore, after a few days have exhausted the curious sights, and the shops have satisfied one's wants. It is an Oriental nostalgia which becomes more and more acute at each visit to the moist and foggy hill, which has been so wonderfully converted into a vast warehouse by British energy and thrift.

Hongkong is unfortunately situated for anything but business. Its strongest advocate can claim nothing for it except its advantageous nearness to the beehive of southern China, and its fitness for fortifying impregnably against a sea-attacking foe. That the British have done their very best with the natural possibilities of the island of Hongkong cannot be denied, and that they have conquered marvellously the heights above Victoria city is evident to the casual viewer.

But somehow or other Hongkong lacks more than does any other large colony in the Orient the spirit of home which makes cities endurable for any length of time, and which is peculiarly conspicuous in Manila. One sees only a handful of ladies on the streets of Victoria, the capital and only city of Hongkong island. On

Sundays, when church bells ring, one's eyes are gladdened by several scores, mothers and daughters, but usually one may walk or ride blocks without seeing any women but the occasional tourist or the omnipresent Chinese.

Almost all the domestic life of the city is on the terraces of the Pea, and removed from sight. The hotels have only a small percentage of women guests, and men, men, men, are everywhere. The fact is that as a rule British colonists do not bring their wives with them. They come to the outposts of their nation, young, apprenticed, and without marital ties. As they grow older and accumulate means, they now and again return to their homes and bring out the sweethearts of their youth. But for years they live in a society, most of the time in which the ennobling influence of good women does not enter. Not that in Hongkong there are not as fair and charming women as anywhere, but they are few comparatively, and the average man does not meet them often.

He looks to his club, his sports, and the dissipations of night for relaxation from his work. There is not wanting this same lack in Manila, but it is a dozen times more apparent in Hongkong, and it strikes a chill to the Manilan who is compelled by hard fate to tarry in the former city.

Returning to Manila, the citizen who has adopted these islands as his home, feels his spirits bound at the sight of the Luneta, the women in carriages, the children on the grass; the chatter of his own kind is music to his soul. He does not feel so much an alien in a strange land as in China. The streets are brighter, the clubs more companionable; and one realises that Manila, though far from the centre of the social world, is nearer to comfort and contentment than any other of the ports of the Far East in which the white man has cast his lot.

WATER RETURN.

LEVEL AND STORAGE OF WATER IN RESERVOIRS ON THE 1ST JUNE.

	LEVEL.	
	1903.	1904.
	Below overflow.	
Tytam	24 ft. 0 in.	59 ft. 0 in.
Pokfulam	6 ft. 5 in.	30 ft. 0 in.
Wongneicheong	41 ft. 8 in.	29 ft. 10½ in.
	STORAGE GALLONS.	
	1903.	1904.
Tytam	211,900,000	59,300,000
Pokfulam	52,000,000	8,200,000
Wongneicheong	460,000	4,060,000
Total	264,360,000	71,560,000

CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN THE CITY OF VICTORIA AND HILL DISTRICT DURING THE MONTH OF MAY.

	1903.	1904.
Consumption	111,848,000	76,931,000 gallons
Estimated population	218,800	223,700
Consumption per head per day	16.4	11.1 gallons
Intermittent supply to 5th May, 1903.		
Intermittent supply during the month of May, 1904.		

CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN KOWLOON PENINSULA DURING THE MONTH OF MAY.

	1903.	1904.
Consumption	14,438,000	12,984,000 gallons
Estimated population	61,950	67,800
Consumption per head per day	7.5	6.1 gallons
The Government Analyst reports that the water is of excellent quality.		

P. N. H. JONES,
Water Authority.

There has been a serious shooting case on the s.s. *Heathburn*, now in harbour. The victim was a Chinese quartermaster who is now at the Government Civil Hospital in a precarious condition. The carpenter of the steamer, a Norwegian, is now in custody. The affair, it is alleged, took place in the middle of the night, the Chinaman receiving wounds in the chest and arm. The trouble is stated to have arisen over some Japanese women who are said to have been stowed away on the ship.

A TIGER HUNT IN KWANGTUNG.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

The following account of a trip after tiger, which, though unsuccessful, afforded plenty of enjoyment and excitement, may be of some interest.

The venue of the hunt was in the west of Kwangtung province, fifteen miles north of the West River. I passed a day at Koon Wui, a small market town, and in the evening, having, after much haggling, purchased a dog as bait, set out for the hills where the tigers have their abode. It was not without considerable difficulty that a Chinaman could be induced to come out. The Chinese stand in the greatest terror of the tiger, and even apply the propitiatory adjective "venerable" to it. They cannot indeed be blamed for their state of mind, as they have no adequate weapons with which to meet the formidable beast.

Finally, however, a sturdy yokel agreed to come with me, and he was put in charge of the bait and necessary victuals. We set out for the hills much later than I had hoped, and it was already dark when we entered a narrow valley leading up to the deserted hut where the night was to be spent. This building was some years ago used as a dwelling-house, but its occupants had abandoned it through fear of the tigers, which range the neighbouring hills during the night and attack farm-yards in search of their prey.

I was not sorry when we reached the shelter of this hut, for the Chinaman with me had a nasty trick of looking over his shoulder at every bush and hillock which we passed. He evidently feared that the hunter might become the hunted, and, as it was pitch dark, this prospect was decidedly unalluring. Once installed in the hut, I set myself resolutely to keep awake. The dog was tied up outside, and the tiger was eagerly awaited from the window of a loft in the building.

According to all precedent, the bait ought to have emitted dismal howls, and more especially when a fine full moon rose in an unclouded sky; but it was not to be. Not a sound did that dog make during the whole of the livelong night, not even when, 400 yards away on the hill-side, we heard the peculiar whine of the tiger in search of its prey. This cry, commonly most inadequately reproduced on paper by the word "Woof," sent a thrill through me, but alas, nothing came of it. Twice again, indeed, during that bitter, mosquito-ridden night it was heard, but dawn came without any sign of a tiger.

Thoroughly disgusted, and feeling much inclined to slaughter the dog which had saved its skin by keeping silent, I sallied forth at the breaking of the dawn, and after going some distance into the hills, met a party of woodcutters, who informed me that the tracks of the destroyer of herds had been discovered hard by. Then began a long hunt. For half a mile we followed the "pugs" over the damp ground. There were evident indications that the tiger had returned to his lair across that hill-side. Here was the 'form' where he had lain down to rest—there the marks of his claws on a pine-tree, and wherever there was soft ground, the tracks quite fresh.

At last they ended in a dense jungle, covering many acres, and almost surrounded by hills, so as to form an immense amphitheatre, the "arena" of which was the ancient abode of tigers. My companions, trusting to the power of the human leg and the neighbouring pine-trees, passed along the hill-side above the jungle, and rolled great stones down into its recesses, while I waited patiently with a Winchester at full-cock. As no response came, I skirted the jungle, and finally, with considerable trepidation, entered it by a long disused path. After proceeding for some distance along this, I found the jungle growing denser, and almost before I knew it, the path had ceased, and the jungle had closed in upon me. There was nothing to be done but to traverse it, and to trust to the chance of seeing the tiger first. Before long it became necessary to proceed on hands and knees, and it was while doing this that I came across a black and awesome cave in the hillside. After some hesitation, I fired my rifle into the dark space, from behind a sheltering rock. The echoes alone answered me, somewhat indeed to my

relief; although ten cartridges in reserve give one a certain confidence.

After some time I emerged from the jungle in a very dishevelled condition, and with no 'bag' to console me, but nevertheless the excitement and enjoyment had been considerable. With plenty of spare time one could hardly fail to 'bag' a tiger. There were undoubtedly one or two about, and the district is full of them. Four were killed in pitfalls during six months of last year, and anyone with the available time and desirous of good sport should not fail to visit the West or North Rivers and earn the gratitude of the neighbourhood by ridding it of some of these dangerous pests.

CANTON NOTES.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

THE PLAGUE EPIDEMIC.

From all accounts the plague in Canton is not diminishing. It seems likely indeed that once it has obtained a firm hold in the city—and this it has done—it will increase until the cool weather brings relief. Foreigners are not venturing into the city very much of late, and there is a falling-off in the numbers of tourists.

WORK ON THE RAILWAY.

Since the opening of the railway extension from Fatsan on the 1st instant work has been progressing. There is still a good deal to be done in the way of ballasting and finishing off bridges and culverts, as the work had been pushed on rather hurriedly before that date. When the Samshui line is completely finished visitors to the West River will find a great saving of time and trouble.

THE DRAGON-BOAT FESTIVAL.

On Saturday next the Dragon-Boat festival will be held, when all business is suspended here. The river is hardly considered safe for foreigners then, as the Chinese, usually very peaceable, seem on that occasion to indulge in horse-play which sometimes leads to serious trouble.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGUI SAN PO."]

THE VICEROY DESIRES TO RESIGN.

Viceroy Shum sent some days ago a memorial to the Throne asking to be allowed to resign his post on account of illness and inability to govern the two provinces as well as he desired. He said he felt quite ashamed that, though he had exerted himself to his utmost ability, the insurgents and robbers in Kwangai have not been entirely suppressed, though, generally speaking, order has been restored in the province. His Excellency asked the Board concerned to mete out what punishment he was deemed to deserve. In response to his memorial an Imperial edict has been issued refusing his request and encouraging him to do his best to govern the affairs of the two provinces.

DRAGON BOAT-FESTIVAL.

The 5th day of the 5th moon, i.e. the 18th instant, is the dragon-boat festival. The people in the different villages are now busily engaged repairing the dragon-boats, which, as a rule, are buried in the rice-fields after the *fete*. Nowadays dragon-boats, which are generally regarded as sacred boats, are highly prized by the people, for they believe that the sacred boats are able to drive away the plague-devils, as plague generally decreases after the appearance of the dragon-boats on the 5th day of the 5th moon.

THE PAK-LOP LOTTERY.

The Pak-lop lottery gambling has been strictly prohibited throughout the whole province of Kwangtung since the 15th ultimo under heavy penalty. A few days ago a number of yamen runners made a raid on a house in the village of Shek-Hun, in Namhoi district, where Pak-lop lottery gambling was still going on secretly. Five persons were arrested and brought to Canton. At present they are locked up in the military court awaiting trial.

THE OPIUM TAX.

The prepared opium trade is entirely under the control and direction of the officials. The prepared opium shops are required to pay a tax of six candareens for every tael of opium sold, and 1.8 candareens a tael for the opium made from opium dross. Certificates are given to the purchasers. Opium divans where no opium is sold are divided into

three classes, paying respectively a tax of six dollars, four dollars, and two dollars per mensem. The quantity of opium stored in the different shops has to be reported to the head office daily. People who bring opium to Canton from the neighbouring villages are required to report to the office and pay the tax. Excise officers are employed to discover illicit opium.

NEW TERRITORY NOTES.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

13th June.

CROWN RENT.

The difficulty in collecting Crown rent, which function devolves upon the Police, has been very marked of late. Less than a quarter per cent. of the dues are recovered and the people seem to have come to the conclusion that they can treat the Government's demands for its just rights with impunity. Reference to higher authority generally brings forth the reply that the poor country people must not be oppressed and that conciliatory and easy methods, must be employed in dealing with them even at the sacrifice of revenue. The Chinese are adepts at prevaricating, and the difficulties of those to whom is entrusted the collection of these dues, have their troubles doubled by the lack of firmness on the part of those in high place.

COTTON PLANTING.

There is no sign yet of any active step being taken towards the promotion of cotton planting in the New Territory. When it is begun there is considerable room for doubt whether it will meet with much better success than that which has attended the attempt to introduce Straits Settlements sugar-cane into the same country. Practical results have been attained that go to show that the southern cane is capable of producing 40 per cent. more sugar than the Chinese plant, but the Chinese prefer their own native cane simply because it needs less attention and can be counted upon to grow on ground which is unfit for the cultivation of good paddy. Whether even the offer of prizes for the growing of cotton will act as an incentive to the New Territory people remains to be proved.

THE RAILWAY SCHEME.

There is a growing belief, and it is well borne out by recent statistics, that the New Territory as a whole is in the nature of a white elephant. Its upkeep is a drain upon the resources of Hongkong. The establishment of a railway running through the Territory to the Frontier would of course make an immense difference, and would ensure the lasting prosperity of the region. Just as a sample of the difficulty of travel, we may take the journey from or to Samchun to Hongkong. It occupies at least three days if the passenger has business to transact in one or other of the termini, and yet the cities are only some 35 miles distant. The same remark applies to Taipo or any of the outlying stations on the British side. The advent of the railway would change all that.

SAMCHUN.

I hear from a source deserving every credence that the representative people of Samchun city and valley have again petitioned the Hongkong Government to take over these places and incorporate them in the New Territory under British rule. Until this is done Samchun will certainly be a standing menace to the peace of the countryside. It is the resort of all the bad characters of the province, who find it a convenient base from which to make raids upon the British Territory villages and also to make descents upon itself for thieving purposes. This is said to be the third occasion on which similar petitions have been made. The Government are foolish not to take advantage of the general feeling and arrange for the transfer of the city to the British flag.

A NUISANCE.

The other day the passengers on board one of the Samchun River launches were horrified to find out on their arrival at the point where they change into the flat-bottomed river boats that they had had for a mate on the way up a corpse. It was only when the custodians of the body attempted to remove it from the launch to the boat that its presence was made patent to the passengers, for *en voyage* it had been half

covered up with matting, so that it was not strikingly visible. The woman who was taking the body up was incensed at the refusal of the boatpeople to take it ashore, and she indignantly produced a permit from the Registrar-General of Hongkong authorising the removal of a dead body. It was eventually dumped on the Chinese side of the river awaiting conveyance to cemetery. But should not a dead body be covered up decently? The dead carcase of a sheep even must be covered when carried along the streets of Hongkong.

LICHEES.

The crop of lichees is remarkably good and great quantities of the fruit are being despatched every day to the Hongkong market.

THE PHILIPPINES.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Manila, P.I., 6th June.

Last week was marked by an event of great significance. This was the news, received unofficially, of the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of Thomas E. Kepner, a Manila lawyer. The ruling, in brief terms, establishes the illegality of any appeal by the Government from acquittal for the defence in criminal cases, so that all such cases already pending may be dismissed on proper motion.

AN IMPORTANT DECISION.

Kepner was acquitted some time ago by the lower court of the charge of misappropriating certain funds belonging to a client. The case was carried to the Philippines Supreme Court by the Government, with the result that the lower court's decision was reversed. The defence then appealed to the United States Supreme Court on the grounds that, under the provisions of the Philippine Act of July 1st, 1902, the defendant was placed twice in jeopardy, which is also out of accord with the terms of the National Constitution. The Philippine Act, however, was intended to cover the provisions of the Constitution of the United States, but in the point at issue the Government has always contended that a case was never completed so long as it was in appeal, and thus there was no second jeopardy. The Supreme Court of the United States now holds that the jeopardy ends with the original decision, interpreting the Philippine Act just as the Constitution would be interpreted.

Kepner's alleged offence was committed prior to the passage by Congress of the Philippine Act, but it is a principle of common law that any new law in favour of an accused criminal is retroactive, and when in favour of the Government it is *ex post facto*. On this same principle a number of important cases now before the Philippine Supreme Court, which were carried up by the Government under an old Spanish law in force at the time the offences were alleged to have been committed, are similarly affected by the decision and must be dismissed on motion when they are reached in the docket. One case in particular is that of Dr. Gomez, whose acquittal of the charges of conspiracy and treason, it will be remembered, was quite recently appealed by the Government.

DR. GOMEZ.

Speaking of the principle of jeopardy, I am reminded that Dr. Gomez has a fair prospect that one of the three charges remaining against him will be thrown out of court. I refer to the count of *bandolerismo*, in which essentially the same evidence as that used in the treason case will be offered in support. In such an event the accused will be on trial a second time for the same offence, as although under a different law the same acts will be offered in proof. As well as this, trial of the charge of misappropriation of funds promises to result favourably for him. The funds alleged to have been misappropriated are those of the Union Obrera, which has already been decided to have been an illegal organisation. Hence the organisation in question is not likely to have any status before the Court. However, if the Supreme Court decides unfavourably in Gomez's appeal case (i.e., the "illegal organisation" count) then his chances will not be so bright. As it is, like Barkis, he has hopes, and would have but one offence left to answer for.

RICARTE "THE VIPER."

The subject of *bandolerismo* brings me back to Ricarte. The Government is still framing charges against its prisoner. Incidentally, those already prepared have had to be reconstructed on account of the prisoner's admissions giving his case a different aspect. The Government is confronted by no foothold to accuse treason, inasmuch as Ricarte, unlike Gomez, never took the oath of allegiance to the United States and was in active opposition to its rule at the time that country acquired the Philippines, and has been ever since. A subject of the United States he undoubtedly is, and clearly a rebellious one, but he is not a citizen; and under the peculiar circumstances can scarcely be charged with treason or traitorous conduct. Thus the only grounds for prosecution can be *bandolerismo*, or armed and organised defiance of the lawful government, and conspiracy to raise a rebellion, and these will probably be the offences ultimately charged.

A CONVICTION CONFIRMED.

The same telegram that conveyed the news of the Kepner decision, which, by the way, was sent by the Attorney-General of the Philippines representing the case at Washington, contained word of the finding in two other appeal cases before the Supreme Court. These were the cases of Dorr and O'Brien, the newspaper men tried for sedition. The Judges, with only one in dissent, found against the accused and confirmed their sentences, which means the payment of a heavy fine and a term in prison, unless the pardoning authority intervenes, as many believe he will.

Manila, 10th June.

RICARTE SENTENCED.

Artemio Ricarte, the "Viper," was yesterday charged on remand with carrying fire-arms without a permit from the authorities.

Defendant was convicted and sentenced to one year and one day imprisonment and \$1,000 fine, or to the subsidiary imprisonment for insolvency and to the payment of the costs of the trial.

BRITISH TRADE IN CHINA.

INTERNATIONAL RIVALRY.

Mr. Acting Consul General Playfair's Report on the trade of Hankow for the year 1903—an unusually prompt and informative document—contains some interesting remarks on the rivalry to which British trade is now subject in the Far East. We quote the following passages:—

"British trade in China, that is to say, trade conducted not only in British goods, but by British hands, has undergone a transformation. The change has been gradual, and has extended over many years. The majority of those engaged in it have found it difficult to adapt themselves to the new methods which they will have to follow if they wish to maintain their grasp and not see their livelihood slip away from them. The metamorphosis is not in the British trader himself, but in those with whom the trade is conducted—viz., the Chinese; and unless the British merchant recognises facts and can accommodate himself to the novel conditions, he will find himself supplanted by those who are more pliant and adaptable. The United Kingdom has taken a large and laudable share in promoting the education of the Chinese. We have preached to them and exhorted them and entreated them to adopt larger views, and to assimilate the wisdom and superior methods of the West. We have impressed on them that they are really ignorant people, and that they cannot possibly move forward unless they model themselves on European lines. Tacitly and meekly they have recognised this. Silently they have avowed their own shortcomings. So unostentatiously, and in that so skilfully, has the transformation been effected that in many ways they have turned the tables on us, and we have been blind to the fact. Their education has been so complete and their adaptability so thorough that they have shouldered us out of positions which we formerly occupied unquestioned. The volume of British trade is not here spoken of; that continues to increase yearly, and no doubt will go on doing so as long as we have something to sell which the native of China wishes to buy or the

converse. British trade, in the abstract, still flourishes, and may indeed be said to flourish exceedingly, but, in the concrete, its profits are no longer distributed in the same direction, nor do they benefit the same persons. The trade of China is like the Egyptian Nile. In the old days, in making its way to the sea it overflowed and enriched with fertilising alluvium the regions through which it passed. We have, with the best of motives, canalised it, so that it enters the sea in even greater volume, but it no longer enriches all and sundry who tarry on its banks. They await in vain the lavish overflow to which they were accustomed. The stream has been so nursed and conserved that, unless they are wise enough to make use of the hundred and one irrigation channels into which its waters have been diverted they find at last that its benefits are no longer for the first comer as they used to be, and that its profits are much harder to come by. There was a time when the British merchant had very few rivals in the field. Now he has many, and some are of his own making. His European competitors are yearly becoming more numerous and more formidable. They came in flattering imitation of himself, and at first 'sat at the feet of Gamaliel,' but have by this time learned all there was to learn, and have in many ways bettered his instruction. His best resource is now to sit at the feet of his quondam pupils, and learn, like them, to pick up the crumbs that fall from the table. Except in shipping and banking, commerce, with a big 'C,' has passed out of his hands, and nothing seems left him but trade with a small 'c.' Though British shipping has yearly increased in tonnage and, during the current year, also in percentage, the number of British firms of repute doing business as merchants either in imports or exports is falling off, and those still here find it daily harder to compete with their foreign rivals. When first British merchants established themselves at Hankow they confined themselves to the tea trade, of which Hankow was then the centre, and treated with contempt the so-called 'muck and truck,' leaving it entirely in the hands of French and German firms who got hold of the connections which they still retain. The Hankow tea trade, having been wounded to the death as far as the United Kingdom was concerned, by the pushing firms of India and Ceylon, and having consequently fallen almost entirely into Russian hands, British merchants found it increasingly difficult to do any business, the more so as the Chinese merchants began to purchase their imports at Shanghai and Hongkong, instead of through the agency of the local firms. The British, since their Concession adjoins the native city, hold the most advantageous position on the river, yet as soon as the Pei-Han Railway is in full working order, the centre of trade may be expected to gravitate towards the French Concession, immediately behind which is the railway station, and to the German Concession, through which a branch line of the railway is to be carried down to the water's edge. The Germans and, to a certain extent, the Belgians seem to have secured for themselves all the Chinese Government contracts for machinery of every description, the local arsenal, ironworks, and mint being fitted out with their manufactures. The Japanese are to provide rifles for the Chinese troops, as rifles of Japanese make are both cheaper and more effective than those that have hitherto been supplied by German firms. The blame for the lack of success of British firms in these, as in other branches of trade, though commonly ascribed to the supine attitude of British Consular officials towards the efforts of British merchants, would seem to be in reality with the firms themselves, who make no serious effort to push their goods in opposition to those of other countries. At the most they send a price list to the local Consular representative with a request that he will hand it on to some local agent; but they overlook the fact that the Chinese Government prefers to deal direct with the manufacturers, and that the local firms have no facilities for bringing their goods to the direct notice of the authorities. The only effectual method is to send accredited agents with full particulars to the officials in charge of factories in order to expound the advantages of British-made machinery, or to native merchants in order to point out the superiority of the article, which they are trying to sell, and to secure orders therefor."

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.

CONFIRMATORY MEETING.

An extraordinary general meeting of the above Company was held at the offices of the Company, in Alexandra Buildings, on the 15th inst. at 11 o'clock. There were present Mr. H. Humphreys (chairman); Hon. Sir C. P. Chater C.M.G., Messrs. H. P. White, J. S. Harston, and E. Osborne (consulting committee); and Messrs T. F. Hough, E. R. Miller, E. J. Moses, J. A. Tarrant, F. Banks, J. A. Jupp, and A. H. Mancell (secretary).

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said:—I have nothing to add to the remarks I made at the meeting when the resolution you have just heard read was passed. Before asking you to confirm the resolution I shall be pleased to answer any questions.

After a pause the CHAIRMAN continued:—There being no questions, I beg to move that the following resolution be confirmed:—

"That the capital of the Company be increased to nine hundred thousand dollars by the creation of thirty thousand new shares of ten dollars each."

Mr. HOUGH:—I beg to second.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN said:—This is all the business, gentlemen. Thank you for your attendance.

HONGKONG.

A Camera Club is being formed in Hongkong, Mr. H. W. Merrill being Hon. Secretary. Lieutenant W. Arbuthnot-Leslie, 2nd Scots Guards, has been nominated as Aide-de-Camp to Sir Mathew Nathan, Governor of Hongkong.

Rear-Admiral Fauque de Jonquieres, of the French flagship *Chateau Renault*, paid an official visit to H. E. the Officer Administering the Government this week. He was received by a guard-of-honour from the 110th Mahratta Light Infantry.

A shocking tragedy occurred on the night of the 13th inst. at the house of Mr. Wong Kam Fuk, the compradore of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co., Ltd. At about 9 p.m. a Chinaman called at the house in question, No. 56b, Peel Street, to see an aunt, one of three or four female servants. He told the woman that he felt sick, asking her to massage him; and she brought him into the kitchen. Shortly afterwards cries of "Save life" came from the woman, causing the other servants to awaken their master and also the people living next door. On going to the kitchen it was found that the man had disemboweled the woman with a knife, inflicted other wounds on her body, cut his own throat, and stabbed himself in the stomach two or three times; both the man and the woman were dead. The deceased man, Mak Su Tong by name, then out of employment, was about 30 years of age; and the woman was a widow 28 years of age. Jealousy is supposed to be the cause of the crime, the woman having engaged herself to another man.

The Masonic Lodges in Hongkong working under the Scottish Constitution have formed a District Grand Lodge. The following officers have been elected:—District Grand Master, Wor. Bro. Dr. G. P. Jordan; District Grand Deputy Master, Wor. Bro. L. Ma lory; District Grand Substitute Master, Wor. Bro. F. Howell; District Grand Senior Warden, Wor. Bro. J. Dickie; District Grand Junior Warden, Wor. Bro. J. I. Andrews; District Grand Secretary, Wor. Bro. H. Horley; District Grand Treasurer, Wor. Bro. J. A. Tarrant; District Grand Chaplain, Wor. Bro. H. T. Jewitt; District Grand Senior Deacon, Wor. Bro. H. B. Bridger; District Grand Junior Deacon, Wor. Bro. C. F. Focken; District Grand Architect, Wor. Bro. G. A. Watkin; District Grand Director of Ceremonies, Wor. Bro. W. C. Claret; District Grand Director of Music, Wor. Bro. C. J. Tyndale-Lea; District Grand Inner Guard, Wor. Bro. J. Loohead; District Grand Standard Bearer, Wor. Bro. T. Spafford; District Grand Sword Bearer, Wor. Bro. P. D. Hyett; District Grand Bible Bearer, Wor. Bro. W. Farmer; District Grand Tyler, Bro. J. Vanstone; District Grand Stewards, E. A. Earby, J. L. Cotter, F. Last, P. Jackson, J. W. Graham, and D. Harvey.

We have received from Mr. E. A. Hewett, Hon. Secretary of the Russo-Japanese War Fund, an account of the money raised by public subscription in the Colony. The total amounted to \$30,566, of which Mr. Ho Fook collected \$10,086 from Chinese. The full statement and correspondence are unavoidably held over.

Major Sir Mathew Nathan, K.C.M.G., the Governor-designate of Hongkong, booked his passage by the P. & O. steamer *Moldavia*, which leaves London on the 24th inst. and connects with the steamer *Simla* at Colombo. Lady Nathan is accompanying His Excellency. As we have already announced, they are joining the ship at Marseilles on the 1st prox.

On the morning of the 1st inst. Police-Inspector Robertson looking over a bridge at Shaui-wan saw the body of a man lying on the stones about two feet below. On it being conveyed to the mortuary it was identified as that of Gunner Stokes, of the 83rd Company, R.G.A. Deceased had been stationed at Lyeemoo, and was last seen alive in Hongkong on May 30 about 10 p.m. Dr. Hunter after a post mortem examination certified that death was due to an injury to the spine. It is believed he had an accidental fall.

The new rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association which were formally opened, on the 10th inst. are handsome and well fitted, occupying the whole top flat of Alexandra Buildings. There are 28 bed-rooms, a spacious dining-room, a billiard-room, smoking-room, writing-room, a well-stocked reading-room, drawing-rooms and classrooms, while the hall into which one steps on leaving the lift is fitted up comfortably as a lounge-room. The fittings throughout the premises are excellent in every respect. It is expected that the whole place will be in full occupation by the 1st of July. Educational classes will be started when once the hot weather is at an end. It is interesting to note that success has attended the Chinese class which has been conducted during the past three months by Rev. W. Bridie, who taught the class, not in the ordinary individual style generally employed in teaching Chinese, but on the lines used in European schools. Chinese will be among the subjects when the classes re-start.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At the Yokohama regatta, Yokohama won in the interport fours and single sculls.

A petition signed by a large number of missionaries has been sent in to the authorities at Amoy praying for the abolition of the Municipal Lottery, on the ground that it is a bad example to the Chinese, who are already such gamblers, to see a Foreign Council obtaining money for administration through a lottery.

The following telegram was received in London last month from one of the prospectors in the British North Borneo Company's territory:—Rich deposit of iron ore has been discovered near the Labuk River; assay has been made from two points 1,000 yards apart; average 94 per cent., 1,500,000 tons in sight.

The H.K. C. & Macao Steamboat Co. have now no less than three chartered steamers running to Kongmoon, the newly opened port on the West River. These are the *San Yi*, the *Lin Tun*, and the *Tak Hing*. Still another is likely to be put on shortly, so that this Company should retain a firm hold on the trade until the new steamers which they are said to be contemplating building are ready for service.

Mr. E. A. Evers, senior partner in the well-known firm of Simon, Evers & Co., of Kobe and Yokohama, died at Kobe on the 2nd inst., after a comparatively short illness, aged 65. Mr. Evers came to Nagasaki in 1861 to the firm of C. Kniffler & Co., and founded the branch of that firm at Kobe when the port was opened on New Year's Day, 1868, and was appointed German Consul at Kobe and Osaka. Some three years afterwards he and his friend Mr. Julius Simon started at Yokohama the firm of Simon, Evers & Co. He belonged as much to the British as to the German community at Kobe, and is deeply and universally lamented.—Mr. John W. Hall, the well-known Yokohama auctioneer, died at that port on the 3rd, aged 56. He came to Japan from London in 1872.

As we have already announced, the contract with the P. and O. Company for the carriage of the Eastern mails has been continued for three years from January 31 next year, with an acceleration of 24 hours on every section. For this increased speed the company are to receive an addition of £10,000 a year to their annual subsidy of £330,000, and during the three years it will be ascertained whether further improvements can be obtained by open tender. The Postmaster-General states that he has also procured from the company the option of prolonging the arrangement for two or four additional years. If the prolongation is for two years from 1908 the subsidy for the whole period from 1905 will be £330,000, but if the arrangement is made for seven years in all the subsidy for the whole period will be at the rate of £315,000 per annum.

The Siamese Government has granted formal permission to Messrs. B. Grimm and Co., says the *Bangkok Times*, to have Kohsichang and Bangkok connected with the "Telefunken" system of wireless telegraphy by way of experiment. The "Telefunken" representative, it is stated, has had every success in Japan and China. He has sold a lot of apparatus to both the belligerent nations. The Custom House in Shanghai has ordered 28 stations, and is connecting all the lightships therewith. Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg and Co., in Shanghai, are to connect Shanghai and Hankow with the "Telefunken" wireless system, as a private enterprise, and they expect that the outlay will yield good results, as the telegraph lines in China are often not in good working order. From Shanghai the representative goes to Hankau (?) to instal 10 stations ordered by the French army commander.

The thirty-eighth anniversary meeting of the China Inland Mission was held last month at Exeter Hall. Sir George Williams presided at the afternoon assembly. The annual report, which was presented by the Secretary (Mr. F. Marcus Wood), stated that, although the closing months of 1903 were darkened by the dreadful cloud of coming war, the work of the Mission throughout the whole of inland China was, with few exceptions, unhindered by political disturbance or unrest. On December 31 there were in connection with the Mission 783 missionaries (including wives), of whom 146 were associates connected with six affiliated societies. These labourers were working at 199 stations, 19 of which had been opened during the past year; 1,688 persons confessed their faith in Christ by baptism during the year—the largest number ever reported for one year. There had been a net decrease in the annual income of £12,878, as compared with 1902, but there was no deficit to record. Lord Kinnaird presided at the evening meeting.

The first annual meeting of the Java-China-Japan Line was to be held on 19th ult., but the report issued states that the head agent, Mr. Roosegaarde Bisschop, established himself at Hongkong in August, 1903, and in the various ports touched by the steamers, agents have been appointed, Netherlands firms for preference being chosen. The three steamers of the company, *Tjipanas*, *Tjilalajap*, and *Tjimahi*, were delivered in due time, and after their trip were loaded with a cargo of coals to Java. The regular four-weekly service, in conformity with the contract made with the Government, commenced on Sept. 17, 1903, from Batavia with the steamer *Tjipanas*, and has since been continued without interruption. The voyages are, some changes excepted, as follows:—Batavia, Samarang, Sourabaya, and such other ports on the north coast of Java as are necessary for the loading and discharging of goods; Macassar, Hongkong, Shanghai, Yokohama, Kobe, Moji, Amoy, Hongkong, Singapore, Batavia. Although little can be said as yet about the financial results, only one voyage being completely performed, there is reason to believe that the expectations will not be disappointed. The steamers could always be despatched to China and Japan with a full cargo, and they received a sufficient share of the cargo on the other route, as also of cabin passengers. The war between Russia and Japan has not interfered with the service as yet, but the prospects are uncertain. The profit and loss account shows a profit of £136,862, which is devoted to writing off on the cost of establishment.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

Canton, 4th June, 1904. Second crop.—At present it is impossible to ascertain any exact cipher for 2nd crop export. But from reliable information, we may conclude it will be under that of last year. The quality is reported to be not much better than 1st crop. Filatures.—Through out the fortnight a dull and depressed tone has characterized our market, which has been affected by the expectation of good crop in Italy and Japan. The feature of the market is the scarcity of 10/12 and 11/13 in Native Silk, and the comparatively exorbitant prices of those sizes. The stock now on offer is very small, and the subjoined quotations must be taken as nominal. Business has been done latterly in 1st crop silk on the basis of \$725 for Chee Chung Wo 16/18, \$600 for Soey Wo Cheong 11/13-13/15-14/18, \$665 for Yu Ye Lun 20/24, and \$635 for Wang Hing 14/18. Short-reels.—The American trade remains lifeless, both for Shortreels and Rereels. Waste Silk.—Last season's supply is quite exhausted. A few contracts have been placed in 2nd and 3rd crop Waste; but holders in general are unwilling to engage ahead to any extent.

SUGAR.

Hongkong, 17th June.—The upward tendency continues, market being firm.

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$8.60 to \$8.65 pels.
Do. " 2, White.....	7.70 to 7.75 "
Do. " 1, Brown.....	6.00 to 6.05 "
Do. " 2, Brown.....	5.85 to 5.90 "
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	8.50 to 8.55 "
Do. " 2, White.....	7.60 to 7.65 "
Do. " 1, Brown.....	5.85 to 5.90 "
Do. " 2, Brown.....	5.65 to 5.70 "
Foochow Sugar Candy	12.75 to 12.80 "
Shekloong "	10.85 to 10.95 "

RICE.

Hongkong, 17th June.—The prices are advancing, holders being firm.

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.70 to \$2.75
" Round, good quality	3.90 to 3.95
" Long	4.00 to 4.05
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	2.95 to 3.00
" Garden, " No. 1	3.25 to 3.30
" White,	4.10 to 4.15
" Fine Cargo	4.25 to 4.30

OPIUMS.

15th June.

Quotations are:—Allowance net to 1 catty.	
Malwa New	\$1020 to \$1060 per picul.
Malwa Old	\$1080 to \$1120 do.
Malwa Older	\$1170 to \$1210 do.
Malwa V. Old	\$1230 to \$1250 do.
Persian fine quality	\$880 to — do.
Persian extra fine	\$900 to — do.
Patna New	\$1195 to — per chest.
Patna Old	\$1220 to — do.
Benares New	\$1130 to — do.
Benares Old	\$1150 to — do.

Hongkong, 16th June.

We beg to continue our advices of the 2nd June, since when the movements in our various Opium markets have been as follows:—

Malwa, Patna, Benares, Persian.	
Stocks as per circular of	
2nd June, 1904. ...	1,389 2,241 1,515 2,538
June 2nd imports per Ballarat 140 300 150 140	
" 6th " " Lat Sang — 75 25 —	
" 14th " " C. Apcar — 75 — —	
	1,510 2,691 1,690 2,675
Less Exports to Shanghai ..	32 250 125 —
Less Exports to East and West Coast Ports including Local Consumption for the fortnight ..	121 309 189 118

Estimated Stocks this day .. 1,357 1,832 1,378 2,560
Bengal.—The market has declined materially since last principally owing to heavier stocks than we have been accustomed to for some time past. We quote New Patna at \$11.90 and, New Benares at \$11.25, Old Patna at \$12.20 and Old Benares at \$11.50.

Malwa.—The heavy decline in Bengal has affected this description also. The demand has been very small and prices are lower.

We quote:—

New	\$1,020/1,040
2 years old	\$1,060/1,080
3 " "	\$1,100/1,120
4-5 " "	\$1,200
Oldest	\$1,250

Persian.—A very small business is doing, prices are \$850/880.

COAL.

The arrivals of coal up to date at Hongkong have been 36,300 tons of Japanese coal, all sold; and 19,500 tons of Japanese and 3,000 tons of Weesh coal are expected to arrive shortly.

COTTON.

Hongkong, 17th June.—Nothing doing; market quiet. Sales about 2,000 bales.

Bombay.....	28.00 to 29.50 picul
Bengal (New), Rangoon } ..	27.00 to 32.00
and Dacca.....	"
Shanghai and Japanese, ..	30.50 to 31.50
Tungchow and Ningpo, ..	30.50 to 31.50

YARN.

Mr. Eduljee in his report, dated Hongkong, June 16th, says:—The fluctuations in the Bombay market, during the past fortnight, have not at all been reflected here. On the contrary, our market has been controlled purely by local conditions, and it is now impossible to do business unless at a reduction on last quotations. Stocks are by no means excessive, but, contrary to expectations, the feeling amongst importers is not strong, and dealers appear to have gained the upper hand of the situation and are forcing the hands of holders. In revising our quotations an all-round decline of about \$2 has to be reported; even these prices are difficult to obtain, and in the near future a lower range of values is generally expected. Business, consequently, has not been large; sales aggregating only 5,142 bales No. 10s and 20s showing a decline of \$1 to \$3 per bale, whilst No. 16s have suffered less. The market closes quiet.

As a significant comment on the present unwarranted weak position of our market it is only necessary to mention that so less than 60,000 bales—September/October delivery—have been contracted for in Bombay during the last three or four weeks for Hongkong and Shanghai account at prices which show an excess of \$4 to \$7 per bale on ruling quotations.

Local Manufacture:—Quiet throughout and nothing doing.

Japanese Yarn:—Business checked by higher prices ruling in Japan.

Raw Cotton:—The market has been featureless and another blank fortnight has been experienced both in Indian and China staples: estimated unsold stock about 1,500 bales Bengal and 200 bales Ningpo. Quotations are \$23 to \$32 Bengal, and \$31 to \$33 China.

Exchange on India has continued steady and closes to-day at Rs. 135½ for T/T and Rs. 136 for Post. On Shanghai 71½ and on Japan 89½.

The undernoted business in imported and local spinnings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended the 4th instant, viz:—

Indian:—With a feeble enquiry from the North and the unwillingness of dealers to operate, settlements has been meagre, say about 2,000 bales, but holders are firm and the market closes steady. Estimated unsold stock about 20,000 bales.

Japanese:—Market steady and prices unaltered, but signs of weakness are observable at the close.

Local:—Goods under old contracts have almost run out and settlements to be tune of about 8,000 bales have been reported on the basis of Tls. 88½ for No. 10s, Tls. 90 to 91½ for No. 14s, and Tls. 93½ to 95½ for No. 16s, market closing strong.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

Messrs. Noel Murray & Co., in their report on the Shanghai Piece Goods trade dated the 9th June, say:—There has been quite a lull in the War news since we last wrote, and nothing else has occurred to disturb the serenity of our market. The downward course of Cotton is naturally exciting great interest, and the dealers are looking for substantial concessions in price in consequence, being, or professing to be, quite oblivious of the fact that the home market for goods never reached the same level and therefore cannot be expected to decline in proportion. The price of the raw staples has dropped two-fifths of a penny since our last, to 6.50d. for Mid-American and 7½d. for Egyptian. Such a sudden fall certainly looks ominous, and as nothing of a definite nature, excepting the acreage sown, can possibly be known yet, this sudden decline is put down as the work of the bulls, and we shall soon see an important upward movement again. The shortness of the present crop is certainly assured, and it is equally evident that there will be next to no stock to carry over, so there is bound to be a pinch before picking commences. Neverthe-

less makers in both producing centres are coming down in their ideas of prices and are actually asking for counter offers, but with the additional unknown quantity, namely, the course of Exchange, operators here are inclined to act with extreme caution. Of the two markets New York appears to be the easier, and more anxious for business than Manchester, but there is considerable irregularity with the latter, for, whereas prices as a rule are fully five per cent. over this market, standard White Shirtings of some makers are within three pence per piece of the prices ruling last September. For the time of the year trade with the River Ports and Ningpo is pretty fair, but with the Northern markets it is disappointing. It is still encouraging to hear that although the trade is not so extensive in Tientsin it is being done now on a strictly reformed basis instead of the former long credit system. Stocks in the country must be getting very low, which should assist our still fairly heavy stock of American Sheetings. The shipments of all kinds of American Cotton to China this year up to the 18th April amounted to 22,805 packages, against 89,854 packages last year to the same date. According to private advices the shipments from England of Plain Cottons to China and Hongkong for May only amounted to 15,000,000 yards. The fall in Cotton seems to have affected the Yarn market to some extent and lower offers are being made for both imported and Local Spinning. Native Cotton is easier and weak. Coreau Imports.—As promised last week we give a comparative table of the chief imports of Foreign Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods and yarn into the Hermit Kingdom for the years 1893 to 1903 with the value in Yen. The trade of the country is increasing by leaps and bounds, as the following figures show:—

	1893	1903
Yen.		
Foreign Imports.....	3,905,428	18,410,711
" Exports.....	1,698,116	9,477,608
Treasure from Foreign } ..	505,684	1,086,668
Countries		
Treasure from Foreign } ..	1,942,356	6,526,157
Countries		

HONGKONG QUOTATIONS.

Hongkong, 17th June.

Beans	\$4
Borax	\$15 @ 17
Camphor (China).....	\$100
" (Formosa).....	\$—
Cassia (First quality)	\$22
" (Second ")	\$15
" Oil	\$155 @ 167½
Cloves	\$25 @ 54
Fennel Seed Oil	\$330
Galangle	\$—
Garlic	\$—
Glue	\$26
Grapes	\$15 @ 16
Ivory	\$300 @ 700
Kismiss	\$9 @ 12
Olibanum	\$7 @ 20
Rosa Oil	\$70 @ 175
Saltpetre	\$11
Sandal wood	\$25 @ 32
" Oil	\$300 @ 400
Senna Leaves.....	\$3 @ 6
Sugar Candy	\$10 @ 13
Vermilion	\$80½
Wax.....	\$35 @ 38

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Sachsen*, sailed on 9th June. For Penang:—10 boxes cassia. For Colombo:—82 rolls matting. For Aden:—750 bags sugar, 10 boxes cassia. For Venice:—100 boxes cassia. For Genoa:—100 boxes cassia, 70 bales raw silk, 1 case ginger, 1 case camphorwood trunks. For Antwerp:—125 bales split bamboo, 30 bales feathers. For Antwerp or Hamburg:—7 cases bristles. For Amsterdam:—292 rolls matting. For Amsterdam or Rotterdam:—8 cases sundries, 5 cases blackwoodware. For Rotterdam:—250 boxes cassia, 48 bales canes, 40 rolls mats, 1 bale leaf tobacco. For Bremen:—218 rolls mats. For Bremen or Hamburg:—67 bales feathers. For Hamburg:—200 boxes cassia, 93 rolls mats, 4 cases paper, 3 cases feathers, 1 case furniture. For Copenhagen:—8 cases curios.

Per steamer *Teenkai*, sailed on 10th June. For Liverpool:—200 bales hemp, 35 packages sundries, 18 cases ginger. For Marseilles:—120 bales human hair, 100 packages tea, 400 cases cassia, 158 cases aniseed. For Barcelona:—6 bales hides. For Marseilles or Barcelona:—10 cases aniseed. For Marseilles or Harve:—200 cases aniseed, 250 cases cassia.

HANKOW, 17th June.—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

	Per picul.
Cowhides, best selected	Tls. 32.50
Do. seconds	28.00
Buffalo hides, best selected	19.00
Goatekins, untanned (chiefly white colour) ..	58.00
Buffalo Horns (average 3lbs. each)	9.20
White China Grass (Wuchang and/or Poochi)	10.70
White China Grass (Sinshan and/or Chayu)	9.75
Green China Grass (Szechuen)	11.20
Jute	5.00
White Vegetable Tallow (Kinchow)	10.00
White Vegetable Tallow (Pingchew and/or Macheng)	9.70
White Vegetable Tallow (Mongyu)	—
Green Vegetable Tallow (Kiyu)	9.80
Animal Tallow	8.20
Gallnuts (usual shape)	18.40
Do. (Plum) do.	22.00
Black Bristles	122.00
Feathers (Grey and/or White Duck)	19.50
" " Wild Duck	21.00
Turmeric	3.25
Sesamum Seed	4.50
Sesamum Seed Oil	7.90
Vegetable Tallow Seed Oil	7.90
Wood Oil,	8.00
Tea Oil	8.90

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 17th June, 1904.—The general tone of our market continues dull and inactive, with but little alteration in current market values. Indo-Chinas and China Sugars have again absorbed the chief attention of operators, but rates close in both instances without any material change as compared with last week's quotations.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghais have eased off, and a few shares are obtainable locally at \$660. The London quotation remains at £66. 10s. 0d. Nationals are still enquired for at \$38.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have sold and continue in request at \$540. China Traders after sales at \$61 are asked for at \$62. North Chinas are steady with probable buyers at Tls. 62½. Yangtszes and Cantons are unchanged and without business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Chinas have sold at \$86½ and continue in request. Hongkongs are obtainable to a small extent at \$310.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton, and Macao have sold at \$30 but close weaker with sellers at \$29½. Indo-Chinas have ruled very erratic with sales ranging between \$112 and \$117 for cash and July delivery, \$115 to \$118 September, \$119 October, and \$20 to \$121 December. At the close the market is steady with cash buyers at \$116. China and Manilas are neglected at \$26, at which there are sellers. Douglasses are unchanged with sellers at \$36. Star Ferries (old) are enquired for at the improved rate of \$32½; the new issue is also firmer, and shares could probably be placed at \$24. Shell Transports have declined to 22/6 sellers.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have been sold at varying rates between \$165 and \$170 cash, closing steadier with probable buyers at \$168. Forward rates however are not so firm, due apparently to the desire of holders of cheaper purchases to realise profits, and for distant dates to the end of the year shares are obtainable at rather less than the usual equivalent rates. Luzons are quite out of favour at \$9 sellers.

MINING.—No change in quotations or business to report.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have sold at \$213 cash and for the settlement delivery, and close with further sellers at the rate. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves are easier with sellers at \$108½. New Amoy Docks are on offer at \$30. Farnhams are enquired for locally at Tls. 156.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have changed ownership at \$158, and a few more shares are obtainable at this figure. Kowloon Lands can be placed at the improved rate of \$37, and West Points at \$59. Humphreys Estates are still procurable at \$12½ and \$4½ for the old and new issues respectively.

Hongkong Hotels have sold and have further sellers at \$137. Shanghai Lands are unchanged at Tls. 110.

COTTON MILLS.—No business has transpired and quotations are unaltered.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements have sold and are wanted at \$29. Watsons are enquired for at \$13½. Fenwicks are procurable at \$48. Ices have sold at \$225. Steam Water Boats have improved to \$17 buyers, and Dairy Farms to \$6 buyers. Bell's Asbestos can be placed at \$5, and China Light and Power at the improved rate of \$7. China Providents have sold and have further sellers at \$9½. Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	{ \$660, sellers L'don, £66. 10s.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	28	\$38, buyers
B. Shares	28	\$38, buyers
Foun. Shares	21	\$10, buyers
Insurance—		
Union	\$100	\$540, buyers
China Traders	\$25	\$62, buyers
North China	25	Tls. 62½, sales
Yangtze	\$60	\$130
Canton	\$50	\$212
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$310, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$86½, buyers
Steamship Coys.—		
H., Canton and M...	\$15	\$29½, sellers
Indo-China S. N. ...	210	\$116, buyers
China and Manila ...	\$50	\$26, sellers
Douglas Steamship ...	\$50	\$36, sellers
Star Ferry	\$10	\$32½, buyers
Shell Transport and Trading Co.	21	22/6, sellers
Do. pref. shares	210	£8. 10s.
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$168
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$9, sellers
Mining—		
Punjom	\$11	nominal
Do. Preference	\$1	40 cts., buyers
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$490
Raub	18 10d.	\$7, sellers
Docks, Etc.—		
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$213, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G. ...	\$50	\$108½, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$61	\$30, sellers
S. C. F. Boyd & Co. ...	Tls. 100	Tls. 156, buyers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv. ...	\$100	\$158, sellers
Kowloon Land & B. ...	\$30	\$36½, buyers
West Point Building ...	\$50	\$58, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$137, sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$12½, sellers
S'hai Land Ins. Co., Ld.	Tls. 50	\$4½, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 30, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 25
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 32½
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 160, sellers
Hongkong	\$10	\$14½, sellers
Green Island Cement ...	\$10	\$29, sales & buyers
China-Borneo Co., Ld. ...	\$12	\$9.75, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S. ...	\$10	\$134, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$14, sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas	210	\$160, buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	{ \$140, sellers
Fenwick & Co., Geo. ...	\$25	\$48, sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$27.5, sales
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$280
Hk. Steam Water-Boat Co., Ld.	\$10	\$17, buyers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$16, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co. ...	\$10	\$37, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A. ...	12/6	\$5, buyers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$10½, buyers
Do	\$10	\$210, buyers
Tebrau Planting Co. ...	\$5	\$1, sellers
China Prov. L. & M. ...	\$10	\$9½, sales & sellers
Watkins Ld.	\$10	\$7½, buyers
China Light & Power Co., Ld.	\$10	\$7, buyers
Powell, Ld.	\$10	\$10½, sellers
Shanghai and Hongkong Dyeing and Cleaning Co., Ld.	\$50	\$50
Canton, Hongkong Ice Cigar Companies—	\$10	\$10, nominal
Alhambra Limited	\$500	\$200
Phippine Tobacco Trust Co., Ld.)	\$10	\$9½, sellers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Share Report for the week ending 9th June, says:—The volume of business for the past week has not been large, due in a great measure to the falling off in business in Indo-Chinas. Hongkong continued to buy shares up to H. \$123, the market then eased for buyers and quotations fell in that port to \$119. For cash we have neither buyers nor sellers at present, although shares have been offered for delivery at weaker rates. The T. T. rate on London to-day is 2/6½. Banks.—H. & S. Banks.—Our last quotation from the South is \$667½ sellers and from London £86; no business reported locally. Marine and Fire Insurances.—Shares continue neglected. Shipping.—Indos opened on the 2nd with local sales for September at Tls. 87; 3rd July shares were placed at \$87½, and on the 4th at \$8½ cash, 7th at \$8½ June and \$3½ July. The market closes very quiet with an inclination to sell forward. Shanghai Tugs. The Ordinary shares have been placed at Tls. 47, and Pref. at 46. Shares are offering at this rate. Docks and Wharves.—S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co. A considerable business has been done in these shares during the week, the rate remaining firm with an upward tendency. The market opened with cash sales at Tls. 155½ and 156 for June delivery; July shares have been placed at Tls. 157, 158 and 159. August at 159, 160½, and 161. September at 161½, 162, 161½, and again at 161, and for October at 162. Shanghai & Hongkew Wharves have improved slightly in price, owing, it is thought, to short sellers covering for June delivery. Shares were placed earlier in the week at Tls. 150 cash and 150 October, since then June Settlement shares have been placed at 150, and there are further buyers. Sugars.—China Sugars have been placed locally to Hongkong at \$162½ and 163 ex. 71½. Peraks have been placed at Tls. 60. Mining.—The only business reported in stocks under this heading is in Oriental Consolidated Mining shares at G. \$12. Lands.—Shanghai Lands have improved in price. The market opened early in the week with sales at Tls. 108, advancing to 109, 109½ and 110. There are buyers at Tls. 109½. Industrial.—No business reported in Cotton stocks.—Shanghai Ices.—A number of small transactions are reported at Tls. 25 June. Langkats.—This market has remained very steady through the week. The market opened with sales for June at Tls. 311½, and later shares were placed at 312, 311½, and 312 for June. July shares have been placed at 315, August at 320, and September 321½ and 322½. The market closes steady at these rates.—Sumatras have been placed at Tls. 59½ and are wanted at Tls. 60. Stores and Hotels.—Hall & Holtz have been placed at \$28; Hotel des Colonies at Tls. 13.15 ex div. and Tls. 13; Astors at \$34 cash and 35½ August; Centrals at 22½ c.d.t., these shares are wanted at 23. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai Electrics have been placed at \$25 and 26½ ex div., Telephones at Tls. 67. Debentures.—Astor House Debentures at 8 per cent. have been placed at par. We recommend this stock to investors.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 17th June.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/9½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/9½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/9½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/10
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/10½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/10½
ON PARIS.—Bank Bills, on demand	229
Credits 4 months' sight	232½
ON GERMANY.—On demand	185½
ON NEW YORK.—Bank Bills, on demand	44½
Credits, 60 days' sight	45
ON BOMBAY.—Telegraphic Transfer	135½
Bank, on demand	136
ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer	135½
Bank, on demand	136
ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight	71½
Private, 30 days' sight	72½
ON YOKOHAMA.—On demand	89½
ON MANILA.—On demand	Nom.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	Nom.
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	108½
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	2½ p.c.p.m.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	2 p.c.p.m.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	62½
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$10.90
GOLD LEAF, 130 fine, per tael	\$57.50
BAR SILVER, per oz.	25½

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 17th June.—There has been a fair demand for tonnage during the period under review. From Saigon to this, 15 cent per picul last and 16 cent; to Philippines, 30 cent last and 28 cent per picul offering for small carriers; to Japan and Java, no inquiry. From Java to this, one fixture at 3 cent per picul (wet and or dry sugar.) Newchwang to Canton, 35 cent per picul last and the rate is now 30 cent nominal; to Swatow, 30 cent. Coal freight: are about the same as last reported. From Moji to this, \$1.45; to Swatow, \$1.75; to Amoy, \$1.85; to Singapore, \$1.50 per ton. The following are the settlements:—

Helen—German steamer, 2,255 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.45 per ton.
Lugan—German steamer, 2,903 tons, Moji to Kuchino zu to Singapore, \$1.50 per ton.
Hipsan—British steamer, 1,440 tons, Moji or Kuchino zu to Swatow, \$1.75 per ton.
Nithed—British steamer, 2,234 tons, Moji to two ports Philippines, \$3 per ton.
 A steamer Moji to Amoy, \$1.85 per ton.
 A China Navigation Co.'s steamer, Newchwang to Canton, 40 cents per picul.
Bourbon—British steamer, 917 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 35 cents per picul.
Decima—German steamer, 794 tons, Newchwang to Canton, private terms.
Kampot—French steamer, 647 tons, Newchwang to Amoy, 35 cents per picul.
Karin—Swedish steamer, 693 tons, Newchwang to Swatow, 42 cents per picul.
Heindal—Norwegian steamer, 761 tons, Newchwang to Swatow, 30 cents per picul.
Emma Luyken—German steamer, 1,109 tons, three ports north coast Java to Hongkong, 32 cents per picul.
Elitus—British steamer, 1,588 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, \$3.00 lump sum.
Laertes—British steamer, 1,514 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 14 cents per picul.
Hinsang—British steamer, 1,536 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 15 cents per picul.
Chinkiang—British steamer, 1,229 tons, Sai. on to Cebu, part cargo (24,000 piculs), 37 cents per picul.
Breid—Norwegian steamer, 645 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 32 cents per picul.
Dott—Norwegian steamer, 629 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 30 cents per picul.
Telemachu—British steamer, 1,340 tons, Saigon to Manila, 30 cents per picul.
Carl Messell—German steamer, 960 tons, hence to Port Darwin and back, \$8.00 per month.
Amara—British steamer, 1,568 tons, Hongay to Swatow, \$1.50 per ton.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

June—
 ARRIVALS.
 13, A f, Norwegian str., from New York.
 13, Australien, French str., from Shanghai.
 13, C. Apear, British str., from Calcutta.
 13, D. cidee, French gunboat, from Saigon.
 13, Hailoong, British str., from Amoy.
 13, Hongsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 13, Kentmere, British ship, from New York.
 13, Lethington, British str., from Penarth.
 13, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
 13, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 13, Nankin, British str., from Bombay.
 13, Perla, British str., from Manila.
 13, Puritan, British str., from Barry.
 13, Seneca, British str., from Keelung.
 13, Teenkai, British str., from Shanghai.
 13, Tyr, Norwegian str., from Hongray.
 13, Zifro, British str., from Manila.
 14, Benmohr, British str., from Foochow.
 14, Borg, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
 14, Germania, German str., from Moji.
 14, J. W. Taylor, British str., from Penarth.
 14, Kansu, British str., from Tientsin.
 14, Scottish Monarch, British str., from Barry.
 14, Tremont, Amr. str., from Tacoma.
 14, Whampoa, British str., from Shanghai.
 15, C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 15, Elsa, German str., from Canton.
 15, Empress of India, Brit. str., from Vancouver.
 15, Frithjof, Norwegian str., from Tamsui.
 15, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 15, Kwongsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 15, Sagovia, German str., from Japan.
 15, Signal, German str., from Bangkok.
 15, Themis, Norwegian str., from Kobe.

16, A. De Larrinaga, Brit. str., from Cardiff.
 16, Bengal, British str., from Bombay.
 16, Hong Bee, British str., from Singapore.
 16, Iphigenia, British cruiser, from Singapore.
 16, Loongmoon, German str., from Canton.
 16, Petchaburi, German str., from Bangkok.

June—

DEPARTURES.

13, Jacob Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
 14, Alf, Norwegian str., for Chefoo.
 14, Andree Rickmers, Ger. str., for Bangkok.
 14, Aragonia, German str., for Portland.
 14, Australien, French str., for Europe.
 14, Charterhouse, British str., for Amoy.
 14, Choysang, British str., for Shanghai.
 14, Decima, German str., for Canton.
 14, Hailoong, British str., for Tamsui.
 14, Hongsang, British str., for Canton.
 14, Hopsang, British str., for Sourabaya.
 14, Kintuck, British str., for Shanghai.
 14, Lethington, British str., for Japan.
 14, Mathilde, German str., for Hoihow.
 14, Pronto, German str., for Tsingtau.
 14, Puritan, British str., for Sasebo.
 14, Purnea, British str., for Amoy.
 14, Taiwan, British str., for Shanghai.
 14, Woosung, British str., for Shanghai.
 15, Benmohr, British str., for London.
 15, J. W. Taylor, British str., for Sasebo.
 15, Kansu, British str., for Canton.
 15, Kwangtah, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 15, Kwongsang, British str., for Canton.
 15, Laissang, British str., for Calcutta.
 15, Loksang, British str., for Bangkok.
 15, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
 15, Madel, Rickmers, Ger. str., for Bangkok.
 15, Nankin, British str., for Kobe.
 15, Oregon, U.S. cruiser, for Manila.
 15, Pronto, Norwegian str., for Newchwang.
 15, Restorer, British cable str., for Foochow.
 15, Scottish Monarch, British str., for Japan.
 15, Teenkai, British str., for London.
 15, Tremont, Amr. str., for Manila.
 15, Triton, German str., for Swatow.
 15, Wisconsin, U.S. cruiser, for Manila.
 16, A. De Larrinaga, Brit. str., for Nagasaki.
 16, Bengal, British str., for Shanghai.
 16, Chingtu, British str., for Kobe.
 16, Helena, U.S. gunboat, for Canton.
 16, Mongolia, Amr. str., for San Francisco.
 16, Ningchow, British str., for Manila.
 16, Pronto, German str., for Chefoo.
 16, Segovia, German str., for Hamburg.
 16, Seneca, British str., for New York.
 16, Shaohsing, British str., for Shanghai.
 16, Taming, British str., for Manila.
 16, Tjipanas, Dutch str., for Yokohama.
 16, Whampoa, British str., for Canton.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Sardinia*, for Hongkong, from London, Mrs. Lawson, Mr. and Mrs. W. Wolf and child, Mr. and Mrs. Davenport, Miss L. Young, Hon. Lieut. and Qtmr. Barron, Schoolmtr. Bairstow, Capt. H. M. Barley, Bsn. J. M. Piper, Gunners D. L. Hughes and W. Taylor, Engr. Sub-Lieut. Berry, Lieut. R. L. Foster, Miss Willington, Messrs. Sanderson, H. J. Maytum, Wingard, and Sorensen; from Malta, Miss Harding; for Shanghai, from London, Mrs. and Miss Noel; from Marseilles, Mr. C. W. Banks; for Yokohama, from London, Messrs. A. J. Pumfrett, P. Detmold, W. E. J. Detmold, and E. Dean; from Singapore, Mr. N. S. Walton.

Per *Chingtu*, for Hongkong from Australian ports, &c., Capt. and Mrs. Mawlay, Mr. and Mrs. Styles, Mr. and Mrs. Reuter, Mr. and Mrs. Perkins, Mrs. Lease, Miss Adams, Messrs. Thompson, Moore, Kelly, Gibson, Wilson, White, Irving, Shaughnessy, Burton, Jones, Smith, Georgeson, Phillips, and Capt. Scott Hunter.

Per *Ristour*, from Saigon, Hon. G. Peel and Mr. F. E. Hesse.

Per *Mongolia*, from San Francisco, Messrs. Lyman J. Mowry and Rowland Lowe; from Honolulu, Mr. A. T. Miles; from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Gregor, Messrs. F. C. Gratwick and O. E. Magie; from Kobe, Mrs. Mabel Dike and Mr. F. J. Glineshey; from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Cohen, Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Handy, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Morgan, Mrs. Schella Berger, Mrs. G. Reyes Lala, Lieut. Comdr. and Mrs. Harlow, Mr. H. Harlow, Mr. and Mrs. Robt. J. Teall, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Kieth, Misses R. and K. Kieth, Mrs. W. H. Mitchell, Mr. F. J. Mitchell, Lieut. and Mrs.

L. B. Purchell, Mr. and Mrs. N. C. Abbott, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Ballantine, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Thebaut and infant, Dr. and Mrs. F. J. Adams, Misses Baker, Lowrey, and F. J. Dwyer, Rev. W. A. Stanton, Lieut. G. W. Kline, Lieut.-Col. Oldershaw, Messrs. G. L. Shinkle, Wm. Davidson, Emile Agaton, A. T. Hashim, A. F. Eustman, Jas. Reed, P. E. Dudley, Montagne, Fay C. Beal, T. Dominguez, and H. H. Murphy.

Per *Australien*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Mrs. Greene and Mr. MacKechnie; from Kobe, Mr. Thiessen; from Shanghai, Mr. Richie and child; for Saigon, from Shanghai, Messrs. Sidot, Ducras, Peretti, Granger, Homps, and F. Mathieu; for Singapore, from Yokohama, Mrs. Paget, Mr. and Mrs. Kondamosky; from Shanghai, Messrs. Maclean, Chesnell, Lac Divan, and Festara; for Batavia, from Yokohama, Mr. Douwes Dekker; for Colombo, from Yokohama, Mrs. Leicester Bryne and Warrumull; from Shanghai, Misses Marie Teis and Marguerite Renard; for Port Said, from Shanghai, Messrs. O. Gervenka and Nicolas Lucas; for Marseilles, from Yokohama, Mrs. Ka Pun, Messrs. Carpentier, Herberz, Nedden, Jenkins, Rowberg, Wilson, Abahin, Christison, Morris, Mackenzie, Hagg, Mollison, Jenkins, and Kikuta and child; from Kobe, Mr. Fitz Henri; from Shanghai, Mrs. d'Etruyot, Mrs. Laville and infant, Messrs. Masse Paul, L. Henricks, Percival Philippe, Gladin McGliston, Makintosh, Chaia, Pourchasse, Koivineau Abadie, Pourzerques, Laudet, Devimeux, Toresin, Barbara, Milon, Greenland, Maner Yoro, Riveot Marcel, Raca, and Bodquet.

Per *Catherine Apcar*, from Calcutta, &c., Revs. E. Vaughan and M. Schahader, Dr. Duncan, and Mr. Arsen Arem.

Per *Benmohr*, from Foochow, Messrs. McNab, Currie, Savage, Dickson, and Kent.

Per *Tremont*, from Moji, Mr. and Mrs. F. Jensen, Mr. and Mrs. Neff, Mr. and Mrs. W. Smith, Misses D. Hoyt, M. Alley, Donnelly, E. Loll, and C. Martin, Messrs. L. Wilson, Cohen, Savovitch, Lockyer, Y. Osahi, and S. Adachi.

Per *Empress of India*, from Vancouver for Hongkong, Messrs. A. K. Prain and T. Hance; from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Longuet, Mr. and Mrs. F. Maitland; from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Squires, Miss M. Webb, Messrs. W. Farquharson, G. Bowack, Engr. Lt. MacQueen R.N., R. E. Humphreys, J. R. Slane, J. J. Leiria and E. A. Coddington.

Per *Kansu*, from Tientsin, &c., Mrs. Arenel.

Per *Whampoa*, from Shanghai for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. Aikin, and Mr. Hall.

Per *Haitan*, from Coast Ports, Messrs. T. W. Richardson, A. Mackie, L. J. Thomas, J. W. Bolles, and L. Millon.

Per *Hong Bee*, from Shanghai, Messrs. R. Murray and J. Pulson.

Per *Bengal*, for Hongkong, from London, General and Mrs. Gimlette, Engr.-Comdr. Johns and Walker, Corpl. A. E. Dukes, Sub-Lieut. Benbow, and Mr. E. M. James; from Gibraltar, Mr. and Mrs. Carvalho and infant, and Capt. Coutinho; from Marseilles, Capt. and Mrs. Vierra da Rocha, Messrs. H. Stapleton, A. Duboy, and W. Hermann; from Brindisi, Mr. Sidebottom; from Bombay, Messrs. A. H. Barlow, A. N. Ebrahim, and S. E. Sethna; from Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. Pearson; from Penang, Miss Vytkins; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. J. Tate, Dr. Jehangir, Messrs. Johns, Halleem, and Rosa; for Shanghai, from London, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd, Lieut. Hobart, and Mr. W. E. Hunt; from Marseilles, Messrs. Henryon, P. Vellut, J. Lagarrigue, Drouillard, and Costes; from Bombay, Mr. T. Kuroki; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Mr. Rouget.

DEPARTED.

Per *Australien*, for Saigon, General de Beylie, Lieut. Maxime Delafond, and Mr. Toule; for Singapore, Messrs. Frederic Jones, J. W. Withington, E. S. Miles, A. S. Miles, Yamaguchi, and Miss Hana; for Suez, Mr. Lopes Vas de Sampaio Mello; for Port Said, Messrs. Joao de Paiva and Richkoff; for Marseilles, Messrs. de St. Quentin, Aulouis Santos, Federico Xandare, Jarin, La Quellieo, Le Pape, C. Burton, E. Stapleton, R. Mallett, and F. Baldwin.

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